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THE NEWSPAPER FOR SITTINGBOURNE, ISLE OF SHEPPEY, FAVERSHAM & DISTRICT



Issue No 64
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ROWE: THE MP WHO TOOK ON THATCHER

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ALSO INSIDE

LEISURE..... PAGES 20-30
PROPERTY..... PAGES 31-34
MOTORING..... PAGES 35-37
JOB..... PAGES 39-43
SPORT..... PAGES 46-47

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Picture NICK AMES

SANTA SET FOR SWITCH ON

The countdown to Christmas gets fully under way on Saturday as Santa jets in on his sleigh to flick the switch on the festive Faversham illuminations. The jolly red-faced fellow will turn on the lights at 5pm in the Market Place. **FULL STORY - PAGE 2**

BY NICK AMES

TRIBUTES were paid this week to Andrew Rowe, Conservative MP for Faversham and Mid Kent, who died aged 73 on Friday after a battle with cancer.

The liberal-leaning Tory championed the rights of the underprivileged and challenged Margaret Thatcher over racism in the party – which meant he never achieved ministerial office.

Mr Rowe served 18 years in Parliament from 1983-2001 and was regarded as something of a maverick – campaigning on behalf of minority groups, supporting small businesses, and enthusiastically endorsing the European Union.

Current MP Hugh Robertson said: "Andrew Rowe was a Kent MP for nearly 20 years who will be particularly remembered for his fight on behalf of constituents blighted by the Channel Tunnel rail link.

"He was a man of huge moral courage and great integrity, underpinned by strong Christian beliefs, who was liked and respected by friends and opponents alike. He was extraordinarily kind and generous to me as his successor and all our thoughts are very much with his wife Sheila and the family."

The views were echoed by members of the local business community.

Faversham Enterprise Partnership boss Laurence Young said: "We were all very upset



MISSED: Andrew Rowe

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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2 KOS Media's £1 million Business Challenge. See web TV site www.yourkenttv.co.uk and search 'challenge'.



3 Our weekly round-up of the county's top football news. See web TV site www.yourkenttv.co.uk and see the sports channel

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SHINING EXAMPLE: Faversham has one of the popular pre-Christmas parades in the county

Town gearing up for the beginning of festive season

FAVERSHAM'S annual Christmas lights display is set to be unveiled at 5pm on Saturday.

The town will be lit up following a parade which starts an hour earlier and large crowds are expected to gather in the Market Place and along major streets for an event which continues to grow in popularity.

Father Christmas is expected to turn on the lights which will remain in place until January 6.

They have been installed over the last few days and among the most impressive is a life-sized Santa figure on top of the hall in the town centre.

Celebrity

Visitors are also greeted by a smiling Father Christmas face as they walk down the street from the railway station to the shopping area.

The town has one of the most popular pre-Christmas parades in the county and regularly sees crowds packed into the centre.

Last year, they were backed up as far as Woolworths in one direction and the start of Abbey Street in the other.

Traditionally the lights are switched on by a town dignitary, Father Christmas or a group of children rather than a celebrity booked for the occasion as the organisers feel that is

■ BY NICK AMES

more appropriate for a local festival. Stephen Sherlock, chairman of the Community Christmas Lights group, said: "Each festive season the streets are zigzagged with several miles of cable carrying thousands of brightly coloured bulbs, while shop fronts are adorned with seasonal features and illuminated Christmas trees.

"The centrepiece each year is the Market Place with a huge tree dominating the square and strings of lights reaching it from every direction. Above the post office is a special seasonal greeting, turn another corner and find a larger-than-life Christmas candle."

The lights are organised by a group of volunteers who first got together in 1983.

It receives some cash from the town council and Swale council, but members are largely responsible for raising their own funds.

"All the hard work of erecting the displays is carried out by volunteers – often in cold and wet conditions," said Mr Sherlock. "Nevertheless the work goes ahead and a display is provided for all to enjoy."

For updates see www.faversham-christmaslights.org.

• Email yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk

I see my job as trying to leave the party less racist than I found it'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

to hear the news – he was the first MP for the newly-formed constituency and a great servant to the town."

Members of the Faversham Society, the Conservative Party in London and Swale council also expressed condolences.

Andrew John Bernard Rowe was the son of a stockbroker and personnel manager who had been born in the East End of London.

He served as a sub-lieutenant in the Royal Navy during his National Service before reading History at Merton College, Oxford where he was secretary of the Oxford Union and became involved in the Conservative Party.

After Oxford, he returned to his former school of Eton as an assistant master for four years before joining the Civil Service as a principal in the Scottish Office.

Divorced

Mr Rowe then joined Conservative Central Office as director of community affairs where he was responsible for the voluntary sector, ethnic minorities and fostering relations with the unions.

In 1979, he was quoted in a trailer for a BBC documentary about the Tories saying: "I see my job as trying to leave the party marginally less racist than I found it."

Mr Rowe was twice married, in 1960 to Alison Boyd – they divorced in 1975 – and then to Professor Sheila Wirz – née Finkle – in 1983. He leaves a son by his first marriage, the actor Nicholas Rowe – who appeared in the movie *Lock Stock and Two Smoking Barrels* – and two stepdaughters from his second.

Council tenants can find new home online

AN online register of available properties across Swale is now available for council tenants looking for a change of address.

Swale council has introduced Choice-Based Lettings, a new way of allocating social housing.

A spokesman said: "Under Choice-Based Lettings, applicants in Swale have more choice and a greater say in the process of selecting their home."

"Applicants can see how many properties there are in Swale that meet their requirements and are available."

Applicants who are already on the housing register will have their existing application automatically transferred on to the new scheme and will not need to reapply.

This week, applicants are able to view all the properties available in Swale, online at www.kenthomes-choice.org.uk.



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Restaurant chain Asks for and gets a pizza the action

BY NICK AMES

UP-MARKET Italian restaurant chain Ask is to open a branch as part of the massive redevelopment of the Tesco store in the town centre.

Planning permission was granted for the licensed premises at a meeting of Swale council for an eatery which will be sited along Court Street opposite the Shepherd Neame brewery.

Local members of the business community praised the move saying it would be a boost for the town during the current period of economic doom and gloom.

Laurence Young, Enterprise Partnership manager, said: "This can only add to the reputation of Faversham as a place where people come to have fine food and drink."

Reputable

"Ask is part of an extremely reputable business and will complement the restaurants we already have in the town."

The chain is part of a business which also includes the Pizza Express and Zizzi brands.

They are family orientated places and regarded as on the prestige end of the national chains with nearly 600 outlets across the UK.

The application also includes a courtyard area which would be made available for people to eat outside during good weather.

Swale's licensing sub-committee heard the parent company – the Gondola Group – had a good record in community relations and was sympathetic to relevant local issues.

Concern was raised at the meeting about the possibility of antisocial behaviour affecting local residents but councillors were satisfied the chain had a good reputation in this respect.

However, it was agreed the outside area be cleared of customers by 11pm each evening and windows closed to minimise noise.



FAMILY ORIENTATED: Plans for build a new Ask restaurant have been given the green light by council planners

The development is part of the Tesco project which will see the store itself increase in size and a former brewery building being converted for residential use in the form of 24 flats.

Mr Young added: "This new development is a welcome one for the town and shows that even at times of economic hardship it is regarded as a

place where businesses can develop and prosper. "Faversham is an attractive place for food and drink already as we have a large number and variety of excellent restaurants, cafes, bars and pubs."

"This family orientated restaurant will add to that and complement what we already have."

Sheps chief attacks raise in alcohol tax

BREWERY boss Jonathan Neame has challenged the Treasury to rethink its policy on taxing alcohol in an article printed in The Times on Monday.

The article was timed to coincide with the budget announced earlier this week which saw duty on alcohol raised to offset proposed VAT reductions.

Entitled 'the time has come to stand up for the great British pub', Mr Neame said the Government is in danger of committing an act of "gross cultural vandalism" in which traditional community pubs and brewers are squeezed out under an unsustainable wave of taxation and regulation.

Mr Neame attacked an "anti-alcohol zeitgeist", claiming that tax increases on alcohol do more harm than good.

He said: "Excise duty does not reduce demand, instead it shifts the point of purchase from the controlled environment of the pub, to the discounting, loss-leading supermarket, and ultimately to the unscrupulous bootlegger."

"If the anti-alcohol arguments and punitive taxes prevail then it will be the good guys – the community pubs, the small brewers, the local cider makers, small winemakers – and not the irresponsible retailers that are at risk."

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BNP members' names leaked on list uploaded to the internet

FOUR people from Faversham were named on the leaked list of members of the British National Party (BNP) last week.

Yourswale has obtained a full list of the names which emerged on the internet and quickly made their way into the national press – believed to have come from a disgruntled ex-member.

In Kent the total number of those named was 388. In the rest of Swale the figure was 18.

Controversy

The largest number in the county were registered at addresses in the Medway towns, which had around 60 members.

Release of the list sparked controversy with names from education, academia and the police force among the members listed, along with their full name and address.

The BNP confirmed the list – featuring some 13,000 names nationwide – was genuine.

Critics of the far-right party say the leak will do considerable harm to the party and future members amid reports of those listed receiving abusive phone calls since its publication.

Film to highlight town creek's rich shipping heritage

THE story of the shipbuilding industry which grew up along Faversham Creek around 90 years ago is told in a film being released about the former James Pollock yard.

Countrywide Productions, using archive footage restored with grants obtained by the Faversham Society, is releasing the film, *A Sideways Launch*, on DVD.

A special showing will take place next month in the town cinema with opportunities to buy the film on DVD afterwards.

The documentary, produced and directed by Michael Maloney, recounts the history of the shipyard established beside the creek by James Pollock & Sons (Shipbuilders) in 1916 mid-way through the First World War. The yard was developed at the request of Lord Fisher, the First Sea Lord.

The creek already had a tradition of shipbuilding, and the yard soon became a major contributor to mar-

kets throughout the world. Vessels such as the *Mollette* and the *Violette*, both constructed unusually out of concrete, were the first of more than 1,200 ships to be built and launched in Faversham between 1916 and 1969.

Because of the narrowness of the creek, most of these ships had to be launched sideways, an unusual and spectacular practice.

The film explores, through interviews and archive film, the development of the shipyard, with frank and often humorous anecdotes from some of the workforce.

A spokesman for Countrywide said: "The film is intended to chronicle the history of its shipyard and profile the uniqueness of Faversham, whilst broadening the community view and involvement with heritage."

A free public screening of *A Sideways Launch* is to take place at the Royal Cinema in the Market Place on Wednesday December 3 at 1pm.

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yourswale
NEWS IN BRIEFDazzling production
of Hansel and Gretel

LYNGO Theatre is presenting a Christmas production of Hansel and Gretel at the Gulbenkian next month.

Starring Patrick Lynch from CBBC's Razzle Dazzle as Hansel, the show features Lyngo's trademark captivating songs and striking imagery. The production is aimed at families and children over four and runs from December 9-23.

Tickets are £9 for adults and £7 for children, with a family and friends ticket at £35 for five people. For online booking, visit www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk.

BabyLady scoops top
nursery retailer gong

A NURSERY store in Canterbury has been named the best in the south east.

BabyLady, situated just off Sturry Road, won south east retailer of the year in the annual Nursery Retailer of the Year awards. The shop was judged on customer service, product-quality and knowledge of products.

It was set up by entrepreneur Debbie Homer Davis 17 years ago and now employs 10 staff. She said: "I would like to pay tribute to my wonderful team without whom we could not have won."

Partnership offers
charity cash boost

WITH the credit crunch making grants increasingly difficult for voluntary and community groups to find, Canterbury council has come up with a new initiative.

The Social Enterprise Hub, a partnership between the council and business groups, offers expertise and information which will help charities set up their own businesses to generate income – a major step in becoming more self-sufficient and less reliant on grant funding.

To find out more, contact Mella White on 01227 862516, or email mella.white@canterbury.gov.uk.

Picture perfect gifts

LOOKING for an unusual Christmas gift this year?

Then check out the work of photorealist artist Sarah Graham, who is featured in a Christmas exhibition at the Art Room in the Fenwick department store.

New edition prints of her work, and works by other artists, are available now.

The Art Room is on the second floor of the store in St George's Street, Canterbury.

British artists
'too costly' for
Wallis statue

SKY-high demands from British artists forced those behind a statue of 'bouncing bomb' creator Sir Barnes Wallis to commission the sculpture from the United States.

The £25,000 bronze statue was unveiled last week, after being commissioned from Maine-based sculptor Tom White.

It commemorates the trial runs of Wallis's cunning invention off the north Kent coast during the World War Two. The subsequent raids on Germany's industrial heartland were later immortalised in the film The Dam Busters, with Michael Redgrave portraying Wallis.

During early 1943, Wallis was a frequent visitor to Herne Bay and nearby Reculver where the bombs – which skipped across the surface of the water to evade torpedo nets – were tested.

There was criticism the commission for the statue should have been given to a local artist. But Herne Bay Town Partnership, the organisation behind the project, said 'shopping local' would have added £10,000 to the price tag.

The commission was put out to tender in 2006 and town centre coordinator Chris West said the

■ BY GARETH ARNOLD

partnership was more than happy with the results.

He said: "Initially, people did ask, 'Why are you going to America when you could use a British artist?' But we put it out to tender and the response was not very inspiring. We thought people would be queuing up to do it, but no one seemed that interested in taking it on."

"And even with shipping it in from Maine, Tom White quoted a price £10,000 lower than anyone in Britain."

"No one could convince us they could do a job to the same standard as Tom."

Despite admitting that he had never heard of Barnes Wallis or the Dam Busters when he took on the task two years ago, Mr White rose to the challenge, immersing himself in the story of Wallis and 617 Squadron.

He said: "I'm glad we've been able to pay tribute to such an amazing man in this way."

However, the unveiling of the sculpture has not been without controversy, with the plaque describing the Dam Busters raid as 'infamous'.

Operation Chastise saw 617 Squadron mount attacks on Germany's Ruhr dams in May 1943. They suffered heavy losses but breached two dams, providing a huge morale boost to the Allies.



ARMS AND THE MAN: The Barnes Wallis statue at Herne Bay

Where magic is the natural selection

THEY are behind some of the UK's biggest and best-loved pantomimes and will once again be staging this year's spectacular at the Marlowe Theatre.

And you can take a special behind-the-scenes peak at what it takes to put the magic into theatres at Christmas on our free broadband TV website www.yourkenttv.co.uk.

Presenter Julie Maddocks visited the offices of Evolution Productions, based just outside Deal, where preparing the shows is a year-round job.

This year it will be producing five pantos

and providing scenery, costumes and props for a further nine.

More than 100 costumes have been made for this year's productions. Costume and set designer Helga Wood explained: "We don't make them all from scratch. Many are recycled and we try to re-use as much material as we possibly can."

"Although with such hard wear on the costumes, we do have make sure they can stand up to seven performances a week."

To view the clip, simply log on to www.yourkenttv.co.uk and search 'evolution'.

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DJ's cherished dinghy found wrecked after vandals strike



Picture: PHIL HOUGHTON

SCUPPERED: James Heming noticed his dinghy was missing while cycling along Tankerton seafront

VANDALS have wrecked a boat owned by Invicta FM breakfast show host James Heming, leaving it floating upturned off the coast of Herne Bay.

And the popular DJ was left all at sea when he made the shock discovery that his pride and joy had been trashed and cut adrift from its moorings at Tankerton Slopes.

Now the popular host has been forced to write-off the boat he loved.

It capped a mixed week for Mr Heming after being joined on his morning show by new co-host Gemma Shepherd, who is already proving a hit with listeners.

But he also learned his cherished 1975 Laser dinghy was missing from its usual mooring point.

It was only when Mr Heming was cycling along Tankerton seafront, on his way to a party to welcome his new co-host, that he noticed the 13ft boat had gone.

And after telling the story on-air, he was able to piece together what had happened.

It transpired the dinghy had been

BY GARETH ARNOLD

vandalised and pushed into the sea. Luckily, a fisherman from Whitstable passed an upturned boat three miles off Herne Bay and was kind enough to tow it ashore.

Mr Heming said: "I had to go to Whitstable Harbour to identify the boat. I felt like I was identifying a body."

"As they peeled back the covers I could see it was my boat and they respectfully covered it back up to save me from the horrors that lay underneath."

"Basically, it's a wreck. To replace all the missing and damaged parts would cost more than the boat is worth."

"It's a shame vandals do this, but this story also shows that there are some good guys around who are willing to go out of their way to return the boat to shore and protect other people using the sea."

It was announced in September that Invicta FM will soon rebrand as Heart, becoming part of a national network of 33 stations with a combined audience of about seven million.

yourswale NEWS IN BRIEF

Keep valuables out of sight, police warn

THEFTS in the city are getting odder as the credit crunch prompts criminals to try anything to get cash.

And it has brought fresh warnings from police about keeping valuables hidden.

Traditional targets such as sat navs, mobile phones and cameras remain popular. However, as the economic downturn continues, criminals are finding more creative ways to make quick cash.

Recent thefts include a compressed air bottle used for diving, taken from a Peugeot 206 in Clement Close at the beginning of November, and a bottle of aftershave swiped from a Ford Escort in Brymore Close between November 4 and 5.

Officers are now using bikes to perform sweeps of car parks in an effort to catch the thieves and also warn motorists who leave valuable items on display.

Inspector Gareth Silcock said: "We are keeping a watchful eye on car parks using mountain bikes to patrol hotspots."

Thanet Way pelicans will be upgraded to toucans

PELICAN crossings across the Thanet Way at Chestfield will be upgraded to toucan crossings to provide safe passage for cyclists crossing the busy road.

The project is expected to take three weeks, during which time the crossings will be turned off and the Thanet Way will be taken down to one lane each way.

Toucan crossings are wider than pelican crossings and designed for pedestrians and cyclists to cross together, hence the name – two-can.

The work will be carried out between the two Chestfield roundabouts and the side road between them and the medical centre, and also on the Chestfield Road.

Saturday shuttle buses

FORGET the stress of finding a parking place while Christmas shopping in Canterbury and let the train – and the bus – take the strain.

A shuttle bus service will operate between the city's East and West railway stations and the city centre on Saturdays in the run-up to Christmas. Whitefriars is providing the free service to help reduce traffic congestion.

The service will operate on November 29 and December 6, 13 and 20, between Canterbury East, Canterbury West and Whitefriars.

The first bus will leave the East station at 9am and Canterbury West at 9.15am. Buses will run every 30 minutes, with the last one leaving Whitefriars at 5.30pm.

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Wheelie on a roll

A GROUP of MS sufferers have taken their entertaining formation mobility scooter displays on the road.

The Red Wheelies team was formed originally to raise money for the MS Therapy Centre in Canterbury.

But last week they went to Ashford to mark the opening of a new Shopmobility outlet in County Square.

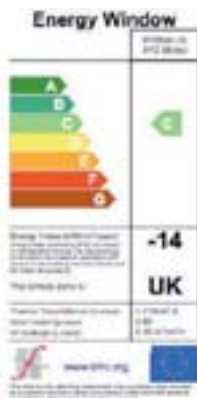
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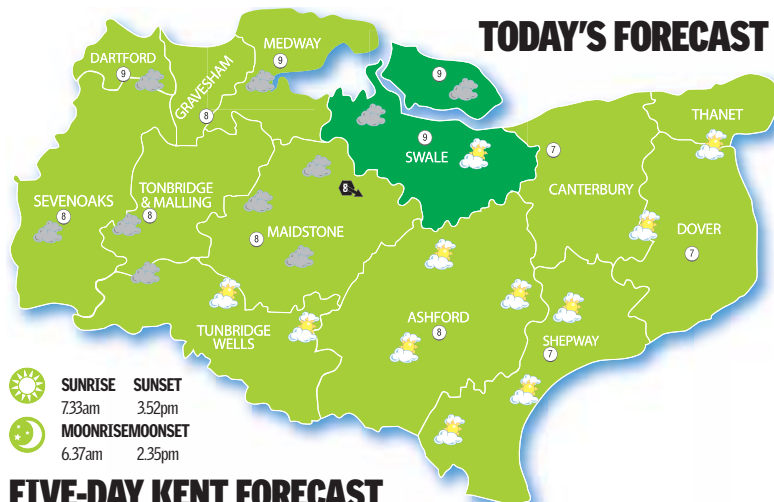
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Chatham	Saturday	12:19pm	5.7m
	Sunday	12:56pm	5.8m
Dover	Saturday	10:36am	6.4m
	Sunday	11:14am	6.4m
Dungeness	Saturday	10:32am	7.4m
	Sunday	11:09am	7.4m
Ramsgate	Saturday	11:06am	4.8m
	Sunday	11:44am	4.8m
Sheerness	Saturday	12:09pm	5.5m
	Sunday	12:46pm	5.5m
Whitstable	Saturday	12:20pm	5.1m
	Sunday	12:58pm	5.0m



AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	3°C	Madrid	12°C
Athens	13°C	New York	1°C
Barcelona	15°C	Paris	6°C
Beijing	9°C	Rome	14°C
Bombay	33°C	Sydney	18°C
Cape Town	23°C	Tenerife	21°C
Cardiff	7°C	Tokyo	11°C
Gibraltar	16°C	Vancouver	8°C
Hong Kong	24°C	Warsaw	0°C
Las Palmas	20°C	Wellington	24°C

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	7°C	7°C	11°C	8°C	8°C	Gravesend	8°C	9°C	11°C	9°C	8°C
Canterbury	7°C	7°C	10°C	7°C	7°C	Maidstone	7°C	8°C	11°C	9°C	8°C
Chatham	7°C	8°C	11°C	10°C	9°C	Ramsgate	7°C	7°C	10°C	7°C	7°C
Dartford	8°C	9°C	11°C	9°C	8°C	Rochester	7°C	8°C	11°C	10°C	9°C
Dover	7°C	6°C	10°C	7°C	7°C	Sevenoaks	6°C	7°C	9°C	7°C	7°C
Faversham	7°C	8°C	11°C	10°C	9°C	Sittingbourne	7°C	8°C	11°C	10°C	9°C
Folkestone	7°C	6°C	10°C	7°C	7°C	Tonbridge	7°C	7°C	10°C	8°C	8°C
Gillingham	7°C	8°C	11°C	10°C	9°C	Tun Wells	7°C	7°C	10°C	8°C	8°C

yourswale

NEWS IN BRIEF

Opera to get you into the spirit of Christmas

A FESTIVE opera entitled Something for Christmas will be staged in Teynham on Thursday next week.

Cameo Opera will perform the yuletide show in the medieval atmosphere of St Mary's Church, starting at 7.30pm.

Cameo Opera, formed in 1990, will bring nine of its singers and pianist Peter Bailey to the 800-year-old church with the sounds of seasonal opera, operetta, and carols.

Tickets - priced at £10 each - are available from council offices or by calling Matthew Craven on 01795 521121, but anyone interested is advised to act fast before they sell out.

Ram raiders cigarette theft from Co-op

POLICE want to hear from anyone who has been offered cheap cigarettes after thousands were stolen in raid on the Co-op store in Sittingbourne.

On Tuesday a white Ford Granada was reversed into the front of the shop in Northwood Drive.

The car, stolen from Merlin Close, was later found in Unity Street.

The driver is described as a white man, about 5ft 7in, wearing a dark jacket with the hood up and silver and white markings along the sleeves. The passenger is described as a white man who was wearing jeans, white trainers and a black jacket.

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yourlocalinterview

QUESTION & ANSWER

MOIRA HYDE



Q What is the history of the group?

A The WEA began in 1903, at a time when there was no educational provision for working class adults. Democratic choice was established, whereby students have a say in the courses offered, that choice is continued through the branch programme to this day.

Q How did you first get involved with the organisation?

A I began as tutor on a women and health course in Deal and I developed a community and health action programme in Dover.

Q What sorts of courses are run by the WEA and how are they organised?

A The branch programme is organised by student volunteers who hold meetings in their localities to review the programme and decide what they want to offer in the future. It is then my role to provide professional tutors, and to oversee and support the programmes.

The community programme in Kent includes health, wellbeing and parenting courses, some of which are accredited through the Open College Network. Alongside this programme we offer IT, numeracy, and literacy courses. We also offer courses to adults with learning difficulties. All of these courses are designed and adapted to meet the needs of particular groups. In addition, we have a workplace programme, offered in partnership with Unison, offering courses that meet the needs of specific groups of workers.

Q What do you think adult courses offer to people?

A Our branch programme offers people the chance to learn what they want to learn, in venues selected by their branch volunteers, with tutors who are experts in their particular fields. Many of our students have been with us for decades and are proud of the WEA tradition of lifelong learning.

Our community programme aims to reach people who may have had a negative experience of school or live in disadvantaged areas. The first stage is normally confidence-building, helping people identify and express their own needs and where they want to go. We then point our students towards progression routes, with the WEA or other learning providers.

We have many examples of courses changing people's lives. Every student completes an evaluation form so we are able to gauge how well they have learnt and how they have responded to the course.

Q How do people go about finding what courses are in their area?

A The Southern Regional office is in Rochester and there is a telephone number for all enquiries: 0800 3281060. People can also look at our website: wea.org.uk/southern or they can email us at southern@wea.org.uk.

Q What is the government's commitment to lifelong learning?

A The WEA is recognised and supported by central and local government. At present,

the government is prioritising vocational courses, numeracy, literacy and skills for life courses. All at the WEA would like there to be more recognition of the social value of lifelong learning courses, which make up the majority of our branch programme and provide a lifeline to many students.

Q Is modern technology a help or hindrance to what you do? Do people really need to go on courses in this day and age of the internet?

A Courses provide an opportunity for our students to meet like-minded people and share ideas. The internet provides a wealth of information but I don't think it comes close to the experience of researching your subject by doing the foot-work and sharing it with a group of students, who are there because they want to be there. I am very worried about the isolation that is spreading among communities, much of which can be attributed to over-reliance on technology. On balance, I would say modern technology is a great help but it can never replace the energy and social-interaction of a classroom.

Q Do you have any heroes that have inspired you in life?

A I was inspired by the community arts movement in the 1980s, and some of the tutors who taught me that, however skilled or knowledgeable we are, creativity is central to personal and social development. Unfortunately this is hard to measure by ticking boxes and so it falls off the agenda all too often.

Q & A

The tutor organiser for the Kent branch of adult education specialists the Workers' Educational Association (WEA), which provides courses on a range of subjects across the county, talks to Ed Hill

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A real treat for movie buffs, Folkestone Film Factory explains its work. Search 'Factory'



Doris the fishing boat marks 100 years on the sea by being fitted with a new rudder. Search 'Doris'



Sir David Frost joins students for the degree ceremony in Rochester Cathedral. Search 'Frost'



X Factor star Ashley McKenzie goes back to school to perform his new single. Search 'Ashley'

EDITOR'S CHOICE

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New limits on booze cruisers hits Kent

BUSINESSES and ports in Kent will be hardest hit by a vote in the European Parliament that threatens to end booze cruise trade, the leader of the UK Independence Party has warned.

Nigel Farage, a MEP for the South East, criticised the new guidelines, which would cut the amount of cigarettes and alcohol Brits can bring back from the Continent, blaming the move on "appalling puritans".

Under the rules the tobacco allowance will be slashed by nearly 90 per cent and booze limits by half. It is tough enough with the fall of the pound against the euro," said Mr Farage.

"A booze cruise to Calais or Boulogne is a good fun day out and very good for Kent, good for Kent business and good for the ports.

"If you take away the cheap fags and booze,

BY JENNA PUDELEK

people will not go in big numbers and who does that benefit?

"It is just these appalling puritans wanting to control every aspect of our lives and people will go on smoking and drinking of course."

But those in favour of the guidelines on cross-Channel shopping said it would put a stop to cheap alcohol and cigarettes being resold.

In a knife-edge vote last week, 328 MEPs were in favour and 319 were against the strict new guidelines for "personal consumption".

Three out of 10 South East Euro-MPs, who represent Kent, voted in favour of the legislation, which could come into force in two years' time - Caroline Lucas, leader of the Green Party, Lib Dem Sharon Bowles and Labour's Peter Skinner.

MEPs backed new guidelines of 400 ciga-

rettes, 200 cigarillos and 100 cigars, compared with UK Customs limits for returning travellers of 3,200 cigarettes, 400 cigarillos and 200 cigars.

With drink, the European parliament defined personal consumption as five litres of spirits, 45 litres of wine and 55 litres of beer, as opposed to UK Customs guidelines for personal consumption as ten litres of spirits, 90 litres of wine and 110 litres of beer.

Mr Farage said he planned to fight the cuts.

"I think there is going to be intensive lobbying against it now. Kent will be hardest-hit because there is nowhere else you can feasibly go for a day trip to France from."

However, a spokeswoman for ferry operators P&O said it did not think the new rules would affect its trade. "There will still be no legal limit on the amount of goods you can bring back. They are levels, not limits. They are a guide for customs officers to work by."

Fashion queen Millen's African fashion college

INTERNATIONAL designer Karen Millen will go back to her roots today when she attends a seminar at the University for the Creative Arts.

The Maidstone-born designer, who studied at the Rochester university - then known as Kent Institute of Art and Design - returns to the Fort Pitt Hill campus for an international development evening.

Fashion management course leader Sheelagh Wright will present a lecture on the Gateway School of Fashion in South Africa, set up for designers affected by HIV.

The school was opened by the Hope HIV charity, with support from Ms Millen, Mrs Wright and UCA Rochester.

The two women visited the poverty-stricken Pietermaritzburg area in 2006.

Inspired by what they saw, the designers began work on opening the Gateway School in a run-down former prison.

After two years the school finally opened its doors to 22 students in January.

Ms Millen, who lives in Watlington, said: "It would be a dream come true if one of the students became an international designer."

Renowned author to address CPRE

THE Kent branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England is to hold its annual meeting on Friday.

The group is due to select a new chairman, with Richard Knox-Johnson likely to take the post.

Currently vice-chairman, he is a business consultant specialising in the financial sector and a former soldier.

New nominations for vice-president include Ashford MP Damian Green, county tourist alliance chief and recent

High Sheriff Amanda Cottrell and Sittingbourne and Sheppey MP Derek Wyatt.

The meeting, at Lenham Community Centre, starts at 2pm and the charity says any residents who want to see the new officers elected are welcome to attend.

After the meeting, naturalist, author and TV presenter Richard Mabey will give a lecture entitled A Parable from the Backwoods.

BACKWOODS: Naturalist and author Richard Mabey will give a lecture at CPRE Kent's annual meeting at Lenham on Friday





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Hospital failing on infection measures

A SPOTCHECK at Medway Maritime Hospital found breaches of the Government's hygiene code, the health watchdog has revealed.

The Healthcare Commission published the results of unannounced inspections of 51 hospital trusts across the country on Monday.

It found Medway NHS Foundation Trust was failing to ensure staff involved in patient care received sufficient training on infection control and prevention measures.

Inspectors also found the Medway trust was not providing suitable hand-washing facilities and antibacterial hand rubs.

KOS Media has been running a campaign to highlight the importance of hand-washing in the battle against superbugs such as MRSA and Clostridium difficile alongside the NHS in the county.

The most serious breaches of the hygiene code were found within Bromley Hospitals NHS Trust, which was issued with an improvement notice which requires urgent action to be taken to safeguard patients.

The commission found all areas where health-care is provided at the trust were not suitable for the purpose, kept clean or maintained in good condition, and there was a lack of effective arrangements for instruments and other equipment to be decontaminated at the trust.

Across the country only five trusts were compliant with all parts of the hygiene code.

Free panto to put a smile on sick childrens' faces



SPONSORSHIP: Charlotte Harris (left) of Buss Murton and Linda Trew from Ellenor Lions Hospices with some of the young cast of Peter Pan

■ BY JANE CONNOLLY

CHILDREN with life-threatening illnesses will experience the magic of pantomime at Dartford's Orchard Theatre.

Ellenor Lions Hospices is the chosen charity of the pantomime's sponsor, solicitors Buss Murton, and this means that young patients, their families and volunteers will see Peter Pan for free during the festive season.

The show stars family favourite Joe Pasquale, who also directs, alongside a cast of talented young Kent actors.

Not only will the charity receive free tickets, but it will also have the opportunity to make collections at some performances.

Linda Trew, the charity's corporate partnerships manager, revealed how uplifting the prospect of a trip to the theatre could be for the children.

"The date is in the New Year, which is nice," she said. "With many people suffering from post-Christmas blues, it gives them something to look forward to."

"A lot of our families end up becoming financially strapped because a parent might have to give up work, so they often miss out on things like tickets to the panto."

Alan Williams, Buss Murton's senior partner, said the firm was privileged to support Ellenor Lions Hospices.

"As local solicitors, Buss Murton is delighted to support the Orchard Theatre's Christmas pantomime," Mr Williams said. "Our involvement in the pantomime forms part of our commitment to the community and is one of a number of initiatives supported by Buss Murton in the local area."

Ellenor Lions Hospices provide care for adults and children with cancer and other life-threatening illnesses in north Kent and Bexley. Mrs Trew spoke about the value of children and their families being able to share wonderful experiences.

"Having pantomime tickets donated is a real boost for the families and it helps to give them memories," she said. "The hospice is all about trying to make the most of their time together, by making special memories they can cherish and treasure."

Find out more about the charity by visiting www.ellenorfoundation.org or www.lionshospice.co.uk.

Buss Murton has branches in Dartford, Tunbridge Wells and Cranbrook. For more information go online at www.bussmurton.co.uk.

• Peter Pan will run at the Orchard Theatre from Friday, December 5 to Sunday, January 11. Call the box office on 01322 220000 or book online at www.orchardtheatre.co.uk.

Santa's dropping in. Why don't you?

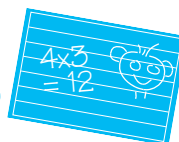


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BREAK TIME

Jacket required for salad bar makeover

THE jacket potato and salad counter of Sittingbourne Community College has undergone an artistic makeover by six A-level art students.

They have painted cartoon characters on the side of the counter and constructed a cocktail bar-style top over which soft drinks can be served.

Mr Potato Head was the appropriate choice for the artistic designs, which have been praised by staff and pupils for adding character to the interior.

The project was introduced as part of plans to use the school dining hall for both a breakfast club and after school clubs, as well as during break times.

It also comes at a time when the faculty has earned healthy school status because of improvements to its menu, which now includes homemade milkshakes and smoothies.

The school also holds international days each month when pupils are encouraged to try dishes from around the world.

Grammar prepares April skiing trip

A GRAMMAR school will be running a skiing trip for pupils next year.

Fulston Manor in Sittingbourne will take a group of students and staff to Saalbach in Austria from April 3-11.

Saalbach has hosted the Skiing World Championships and has pistes suitable for all levels of ability, from complete beginners to advanced skiers.

The group will be staying at the three-star Hotel Traudi, less than a mile from the centre of Saalbach and the Schattberg Express lift which takes skiers up the mountain.

Extras special guest Shaun opens centre



LOCAL HERO: Shaun Williamson opened the Queen Elizabeth's performance centre

ACTOR Shaun Williamson officially opened a school's new performance and music centre.

The EastEnders and Extras star, who lives at Selling, performed the honours at the Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Faversham.

The new space will allow creative pupils to express their artistic talents. Previously drama and accompanied studies took place in the school hall.

The centre, which has special lighting, sound and staging facilities, was built with cash raised through a capital funding programme in partnership with Kent County Council.

The school held fundraising events including a sponsored walk and drama production, while charity groups and staff, parents and pupils also contributed.

The opening event consisted of a 50-minute play written by a group of year 12 students and a musical performance by year 11 pupils.

Mr Williamson was impressed with the play, entitled Prison Institute G3, and met the cast and backstage crew after the show.

Pupils were delighted to meet the actor, who appeared in several television shows before land-

BY NICK AMES

ing the part of bumbling Barry Evans in BBC soap opera EastEnders.

Mr Williamson regularly appears in cabaret and a soul-style band, as well as being a versatile and accomplished stand-up comedian, singer and after-dinner speaker.

He was the subject of This Is Your Life in October 2001 and has hosted a live daily quiz for ITV1.

He also recently starred as DJ Monty in the West End production of Saturday Night Fever, a role he revived on a nationwide tour. In 2006 he appeared in Ricky Gervais's Extras series and recently starred in the play Road to Nirvana, in London, and as the narrator in the Rocky Horror Show.

He has appeared on Bremner, Bird and Fortune and the Secret Policeman's Ball at the Royal Albert Hall.

Last year he made his film debut in Daylight Robbery.

He took part in Fame Academy for Comic Relief and also recently starred as Fagin in Oliver!

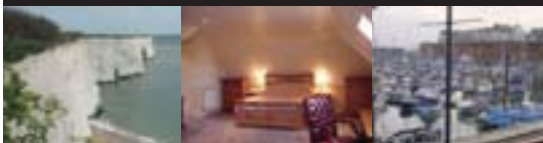
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Government's verdict could be last orders for our pubs

THE last few years have not been kind to pub landlords and pub-goers will find it hard to disagree with Shepherd Neame supremo Jonathan Neame's rant in The Times newspaper this week.

The local brewery boss went as far as accusing the government of "gross cultural vandalism" following years of increased alcohol taxation, leading to locals closing at an alarming rate.

While Mr Neame, whose company operates 375 pubs in the south east, has something of a vested interest, the basic argument is hard to fault. It's hard to see how raising the tax on alcohol is going to help matters when the only people it seems to be penalising are landlords and those who prefer the pub to the park bench.

Because supermarkets can afford to sell at a loss it is still possible to buy a three-litre bottle of cider for three quid – cheaper than a pint in many Kent pubs these days.

Now, there is no way that situation can pos-

sibly lead to less binge drinking. In fact, high pub prices may well have the opposite effect.

For a long time now the high bar tariffs have encouraged people to get tanked up before they even set foot out the front door.

At least when drinking pints in a pub you stand a fighting chance of keeping track of what you've had and spreading your drinking over the course of a night. Whereas we all know measures tend to be more generous at home, and hurried rounds of shots, downed before jumping into a taxi, is hardly a healthy thing to encourage.

But this is exactly what is happening.

No one is arguing that irresponsible drinking in town centres does not cause problems. It does, but taxation is not the way to deal with it.

It's possible to see a case for banning drinks promotions and happy hours, but just increasing the price is a simplistic response that is bound to fail, and could even exacerbate the problems.

People want to drink because it can be fun, sociable and at best the friendly local can become a focus for communities both.

I live in a village which is lucky enough to

have a thriving pub, frequented by characters from all walks of life who come together for a chat over a couple of pints.

It plays a key role in the community and its role, should it be lost due to yet another government enforced price hike, could send us all scurrying back to our homes never to meet, greet and socialise with one another again. Which, given this is the sort of community every government wants to be seen to be encouraging, would be a mighty blow were it to be lost.

As Mr Neame says: "Most people in the country want to have a strong, vibrant pub near them, characterised by great beer, good food and wine and, crucially, good ambience and fellowship. Such pubs exist, but they are struggling against a government that has come to regard pubs as a tax-collection point on one hand and a social problem on the other."

I'll raise a glass to protecting them.

• **EDITOR'S NOTE:** All bloggers are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.

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Write to The Editor, Yourswale, Kos Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

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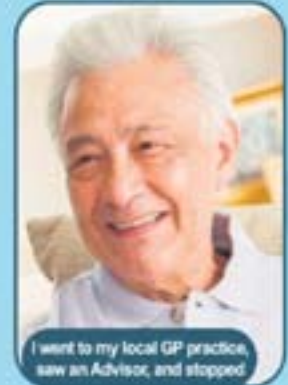
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Following his return to stand-up after a decade, Frank Skinner Stand-Up was released this month on DVD by Universal Pictures. Filmed at Frank's homecoming gig – during his twice-extended, 100,000-ticket sell-out tour – it sees the multi-award winning comic perform in front of an audience of thousands at one of his three Birmingham National Indoor Arena shows.

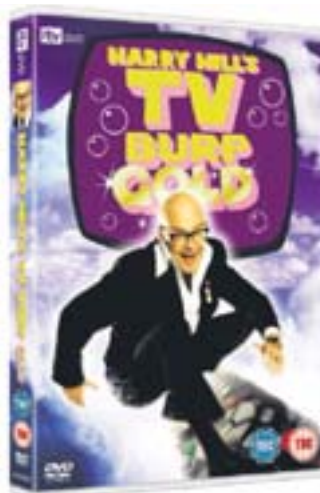
And if that isn't enough, fans of the double Bafta-winning Harry Hill's TV Burp will get the chance to see all the funniest moments from the show to date on Harry Hill's TV Burp Gold.

The disc brings together the best sketches, wittiest quips and most memorable guest appearances from seven series, plus a host of exciting extras and unseen behind-the-scenes footage.

The week's viewing isn't complete without Harry's universally-acclaimed spin on the soaps, big-budget dramas, and reality television oddities we've all been enjoying. Over the years TV Burp has served up plenty of inventive send-ups.

The touring phenomenon Grumpy Old Women Live comes to DVD for the first time, giving its many loyal fans another chance to see the original cast of Jenny Eclair, Dillie Keane and Linda Robson on top form.

Are you a Grumpy Old Woman? Are you more likely to be shaking your rolling pin than your booty? Are you a little bit hot, a little bit hairy? How did you get so ... old? Well, don't worry, you're not the only Walkman in an iPod world and three



highly trained Grumpy Old Women are ready to embark on their biggest grump fest to date.

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TALK TIME

TINA BEAN

The manager of a club which helps families with twins in Swale talks about the difficulties of dealing with 'double trouble'.



How was the club established?

The Twins Club was set up because some of the families said that although they appreciated the practical help a volunteer could provide, what they would really like would be to talk to other families in the same situation. I took over running it in February this year.

How does it operate in Swale?

In our area there seems to be a high number of multiple births and the parents feel the group gives them the time to relax while their children are able to play safely. They are also able to talk freely about any concerns they have and receive information from Home Start, knowing we provide a confidential service. Parents also find they make good friends within the group and often meet up at other times.

What are the particular issues?

Twins are hard work and apart from the extra feeding, changing, sleeping problems etc that are caused, there are many practical problems to overcome. An example is going out. It can take longer to prepare to go anywhere, double buggies do not fit around some places and even baby changing facilities can cause a problem. Most of them are not designed to fit a double buggy in.

And what has been your most important finding?

Having twins can also be very costly. You have to buy double of everything.

• The Twins Club meets at various locations around Swale and can be contacted by emailing home-start@btconnect.com.

YOUR LETTERS



Action should have been taken sooner

It's good to see something is finally being done about the disgusting state of the Long Bridge.

It is literally covered in graffiti and while I applaud the efforts of those children who attempted to decorate it with paintings of trains, this only seems to have encouraged the scrawling of obscene word and insults.

It is way overdue that action is taken on removing this blot on the landscape.

Mike Dawe
Faversham

Lighting is a cheap, sensible option

One solution to the problem of the Long Bridge which you highlighted last week would be some lighting.

I use it quite frequently and now the darker evenings are upon us it can be quite treacherous and slippery.

If people could see where they are going the safety would be improved and it might dissuade



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vandals from gathering in the area and spoiling it.

Such a move would be far cheaper than putting in CCTV and of benefit to many more people.

Mary Harper
Faversham

Wonderful to see youngsters join in

I attended the Faversham memorial day parade on November 11 and was heartened

to see what a good turn out it received.

It was especially gratifying to see so many young people there and their behaviour was impeccable.

I make a point of going every year and I would like to say how good it is to see numbers increase when it comes to spectators.

It may have taken some very unpopular wars to achieve but it seems that the younger people of today fully appreciate the efforts and sacrifices made by previous generations

Alan Hughes
Faversham

Safety should be considered for site

As someone who attended the memorial parade recently I would like to add my voice to those concerned about resiting the war memorial itself.

Surely the centre of the remembrance garden would be better than by the roadside. That way services can be held and traffic not disrupted as people have to stand in the road to watch the dedications.

While drivers were very patient this year I understand that has not always been the case. There is also a safety angle to consider, so when the decision is made for the memorial's new location these factors should be considered.

Brian Gavin
Faversham

Crossing tolls are unacceptable

Last week you carried a story about the Dartford Crossing and the increased tolls motorists are now having to pay.

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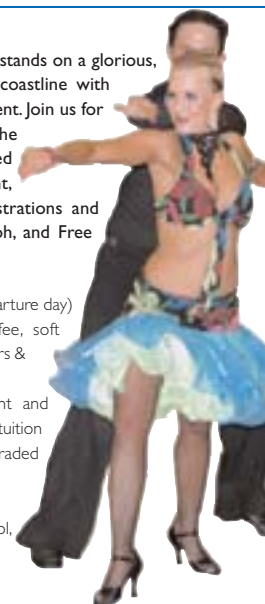
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As a frequent visitor to Essex for my job I have to say I don't think there should be any.

This is a public highway and why should we have to pay for using it?

If tolls were in place on other major roads maybe this would be acceptable – but they are not.

Why should road users like me be penalised because of the route I need to take?



John Buchanan,
by email.



Clean hands appeal should be nationwide

I applaud the campaign your newspaper is running about the importance of washing hands to combat the spread of disease.

It is an obvious thing to some people but to others it really does need to be stated. But maybe it should be carried to other parts of the country – apparently, according to a recent survey, northerners have the dirtiest hands in the UK.

Nigel Thompson
By email

Dangerous cyclists should be taxed too

Regarding the ongoing debate about car taxes – why is there not a cycle tax for riders who use the footpath?

They are a far bigger danger than cars and seem to carry on without a thought for anyone who is using the path legitimately. Cyclists always go on about how environmentally friendly they are – walker friendly they are most definitely not.

Paul Hawthorne
By email

Make a racket about rise in noise pollution

Noise is one of the most neglected public health issues. For Kent traffic growth and aviation expansion depend upon the public tolerating more noise than they do already, despite the health effects.

The European Parliament's Industry Committee has rejected very modest noise policies which would have removed the noisiest tyres from use no later than 2018. Since half the EU's population is exposed to noise levels likely to damage their health, according to WHO standards, this is not a minor issue. On December 2, the Internal Market Committee of the European Parliament will vote on this issue. Kent Green Party urges people to write to their MEP, to prevent further weakening of noise policies.

Go to www.writetothem.com to find your MEPs.

Steve Dawe
Kent Green Party

BBC and KCC are killing free press

As someone who spent his working life in newspapers, I am saddened to see the tough times being suffered by the local newspaper industry in this country.

However, are your readers aware of the threats to local press caused not by the advertising recession but by publicly-funded bodies?

I refer to the BBC and our very own Kent County Council.

The BBC wants to increase local news coverage on the web in direct competition to local organisations who have been involved with their communities for years and always seek to give readers a voice.

The corporation has been panned in recent years for incidents of 'politically correct, left-wing bias'.

And here in Kent our own county council has spent more than £1m of council taxpayers' money on its own – unsuccessful so far – web TV. Now the Tory-controlled council looks set to spend another £400,000 of our cash on the vanity project as well.

Last week Conservative leader David Cameron assured the Newspaper Society a Conservative government would not allow the BBC to destroy the local press using money everyone is forced to pay through the licence fee. So, why are his Conservative chums at County Hall carrying on with their money-wasting project when their own leader can see a local free press, without political bias, is vital?

I believe the county council has a lot of explaining to do.

T Smith,
by email

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Ups and downs of that difficult second album

BY SIMON ROBINSON

THE long wait is finally over – Sega-inspired instrumental rockers Up C Down C have finally released their second album, Embers.

The Medway-based cult quartet – who took their name from the well-circulated Sonic the Hedgehog cheat Up C Down C Left C Right C ABC + Start – said they were relieved the three year gap between debut and follow-up releases were over.

And the genre dodging/defining post rock instrumentalists told The Ether they were already looking ahead to album number three.

You can view the band's interview and exclusive two-song set at www.yourkenttv.co.uk

Guitarist Chris Garth said the Embers release was a long time coming.

Newer

He said: "The album's really old and has just been sat waiting to come out for over a year. To be honest we're glad it's finally out there."

"It took a while to put together as it's more of a studio album than our debut and we messed around on it for a long time with Pro Tools."

"It's still fun to play songs off the album but we want to work on newer stuff. We've already got newer, newer material and that's a lot more where we're at than this album."

"Because of that we want to follow the new album up with another one pretty soon."

Chris went on to laud the booming music scene in Medway, saying it provided the opportunity for bands to get to know one another better.

He said: "There are loads of good, different bands in Kent, especially in Medway. Lots of



RELIEVED: Up C Down C have finally released their long-awaited second album and are already looking to start their third

people like Lupen Crook, Hospital Bombers, Let Our Enemies Beware and Sparrows.

"It's kinda cool as we're friends with these bands and get to do gigs together and bond the way men should."

Up C Down C played two London gigs in the space of two days this month.

They started in Fulham on Wednesday, November 12 then took to the stage at 93 Feet East, Brick Lane, the following night.

To watch the band perform on The Ether visit www.yourkenttv.co.uk and search for 'Up C'.

For more information on the band, visit www.upcdownc.com.

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X Factor star Ashley McKenzie performs new song, Freedom Fighters



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The Kent chart

1. Steve Furlong – To fall with you (from Birchingdon)
2. D-FINITIVE – Space (from Tenterden)
3. Kayley Weller – Tonight is going to be our night (from Deal)
4. Ron Bowdery – The Ghostship in sea mist (from New Eltham)
5. Shotgun Junky – Destiny (Maidstone)

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On course for a great Christmas

■ The Barn

THIS restaurant in Rainham is a top place to dine, as its Michelin listing shows.

And the venue has just revealed a Christmas menu which is sure to delight discerning diners across the county.

The 17th century setting is especially beautiful at Christmas and throughout December the seasonal fare is available with a price of £25.99 for lunch on Monday to Friday and £29.95 for an evening meal for a Christmas Party

Pre-starter is a carrot and orange soup with coriander and natural yoghurt cream, followed by a starter of pork terrine with apple and cinnamon puree with soda bread while the main course is lamb with winter vegetables and rosemary jus accompanied by pancetta dumplings. A seasonal plate with mince meat and cinnamon strudel, plum pudding and iced rum and raisin parfait completes the feast along with coffee.

Vegetarian alternative includes baked mushroom with a blue cheese and spinach



accompaniment with chickpea and coriander potato cake as a main course.

At £55 per head, the Christmas Eve menu runs to seven courses and is accompanied by a magic display while a New Year's Eve menu includes musical entertainment and

costs £79.95. A full menu is also available.

The Barn is also open for lunches and has a special early morning offer – mention this advert while making a reservation and receive a free glass of wine until the end of November.



Rising star for a night out

■ The Star

FOUND on the main A2 just outside Gillingham, The Star underwent a major refurbishment 12 months ago.

This changed it from a run of the mill establishment to a modern friendly one, with excellent food and drink, pool tables, gaming machines and large beer garden.

Sunday roasts have become a popular feature, as have a regular calendar of weekly events.

Tuesday sees a quiz, Wednesday has a special wine offer and Friday is a music night, while Saturday sees a local band take to the stage.

The pub is open from noon until 11pm

Sunday to Thursday. On Friday and Saturday it remains open for another two hours.

The owners realise the venue has established a good and growing reputation since its refurbishment.

A smart casual dress code, entertainment and music, top quality food and friendly and helpful staff have all contributed to this.

They know it is first impressions that count most – a good visit and a fun time mean people will return time and time again.

With Christmas on the horizon it is sure to be one of the hottest spots to celebrate the festive season in Medway.

CHEF RECOMMENDS

The Aviator

Cock and Bull: a whole chicken fillet, 5oz rump steak with peppercorn sauce, with chips, peas, field mushrooms, tomatoes on the vine and onion rings. There are daily specials ranging from homemade steak and ale pie to mussels. Telephone: 01795 666094

The Star

Breaded chicken breast goujons with crispy with salad and dips to start. Then a roast with freshly seasoned vegetables, Yorkshire pudding and slow cooked joint of beef. End with freshly made apple crumble drizzled in custard. Telephone: 01634 851175

The Barn

Seared Scottish scallops on pumpkin, sage and mascarpone risotto. Wild boar on a smoked potato puree with creamed spinach, local reared belly of pork nuggets and a parsnip volute. Then apple and caramel trifle. Telephone: 01634 361363

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Saturday live music, some of the hottest live music around
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GOOD FRIENDS: Some of the cast of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, while Emma Barton (below) is a real honey as the pantomime's leading lady

Take a bite out of panto

Marlowe's final Christmas is sure to be a laugh

HEIGH ho, heigh ho, it's off to work we go as the Marlowe's Christmas pantomime gets under way.

The spectacular show will be packed with family fun and an all-star cast as it brings the story of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs to life. With lots of laughs, great singing and dancing, stunning costumes, magical scenery and some fun audience participation, there should be plenty to keep people of all ages entertained.

The beautiful Snow White is played by Emma Barton, who played Honey Mitchell in Eastenders. Children's TV favourite Stephen Mulhern is back by popular demand as the cheeky Court Jester, while local legend Dave Lee will be picking up the ghost gag bench as Nurse Nellie.

Ben Roddy, whose stage credits include Deep Blue Sea, Pride and Prejudice and An Evening With Gary Lineker, will play Herman the Henchman. American actress Valerie Cutko will be bringing the Wicked Queen to life, while Kent's own Phil Holden will be appearing as one of the dwarfs. The dashing Prince Lorenzo is played by Richard Hurst, who has a variety of stage, TV and music credits to his name.



SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS

Saturday, November 29, to Sunday, January 18
The Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury

Produced by the same team that brought Aladdin to The Marlowe last year, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs tells a classic story about betrayal, peril, friendship and love.

Snow White was already a popular fairytale in many European countries when the Brothers Grimm made the German version famous. In 1937 Disney made what many consider to be the definitive version

of the tale, giving the dwarfs individual names for the first time and creating what remains a favourite film with contemporary audiences more than 70 years later.

When a kindly queen hopes to have a beautiful daughter, her wish is granted and the child is named Snow White. But her mother dies and the king then marries a vain and spiteful woman. Every day the Wicked Queen asks her enchanted mirror 'Who is the fairest of them all?' and receives a satisfactory answer.

But one day the mirror tells her Snow White is now the fairest in all the land and in a jealous fury the Wicked Queen orders that her step-daughter be killed.

Unable to carry out the deed, a henchman releases Snow White into the forest, where she finds friendship with an unlikely band of characters - Doc, Happy, Sneezy, Grumpy, Bashful, Sleepy and Dopey.

When the Wicked Queen discovers the deception, she sets out to kill Snow White herself. What will become of our heroine?

This will be the last Marlowe pantomime before the theatre closes for redevelopment next year, so don't miss this chance to enjoy the fun.

Tickets are priced from £9 to £21.50. To book, call 01227 787787, or visit www.marlowetheatre.com.



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THE NOISE NEXT DOOR

Wednesday December 3
Orange Street Music Venue, Canterbury

COMEDY can be found in the most unexpected places when The Noise Next Door perform.

The group of five performers turns audience suggestions into hilarious scenarios, characters and dialogue at a moment's notice, using their energy and talent to create one-off shows that will have audiences in stitches.

The gang has been performing together for more than three years but the company was

only founded in March this year. Since then the Brighton-based troupe has sold out shows at the Brighton and Edinburgh Fringe Festivals, supported top comics such as Harry Hill and Ed Byrne and become the first international group to attend FRACAS, an improvisation conference in Los Angeles.

The Noise Next Door will be performing at Orange Street on a monthly basis, giving Canterbury audiences the chance to enjoy their energetic shows and razor-sharp wit. Having won praise from high profile comedians such as Ed Byrne and Lucy Porter, the group is surely on its way up.

The show starts at 8pm, tickets are £8/£6. See www.orangestreetmusic.com for details.

CHRIS ADDISON

Wednesday, December 3
Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury

EXPECT whimsy and lies when award-winning comedian Chris Addison comes to Canterbury next week.

With his energetic routines, daft ideas and faultless delivery, Addison was nominated for the former Perrier Awards twice and is now seen as one of the UK's most versatile comics. He appeared in the Bafta Award-winning political comedy series *The Thick Of It* and this year wrote and starred in his own BBC2 sitcom, *Lab Rats*. Set in a university research laboratory, it featured a host of bizarre characters all trying to advance science while coping with their varied personal lives.

He landed his own BBC radio series, *Chris Addison's Civilisation*, in 2006 and



that year he won the Sony UK Radio Award for Best Comedy Show for his anthropological lecture series *The Ape That Got Lucky*, with Dan Tetsell.

His comedy is described as a mixture of 'smarty-pants' daftness, whimsy, perspira-

tion, lies and jokes'. At the time of writing, tickets were selling fast so move quickly to secure your seat.

The show starts at 7.45pm and tickets cost £14. Call the box office on 01227 769075 or book online at www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk.

alongside Barbra Streisand. He was heading towards a career in medicine following the death of his grandmother from cancer, but his life was to change when he was offered a job writing songs for a music publishing company.

Despite a slow start to his career as a performer, Diamond's songs were soon becoming huge hits for artists such as Elvis Presley, Deep Purple, Lulu and Cliff Richard.

He went on to score worldwide hits throughout the 60s, 70s and 80s - some reports put his record sales at more than 100 million - and he continues to enjoy a strong following all over the world.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £12.50. To book call 01227 373322 or visit www.kingscaters.co.uk.

A DIAMOND EXPERIENCE

Sunday, November 30
Kings Hall, Herne Bay

THE popular music of Neil Diamond will be brought to the stage by tribute act Bob Drury in his show *A Diamond Experience*.



SWALE LEISURE

Join in the fun as town lights up for season

WELCOME the festive season this weekend when Faversham's stunning Christmas lights are switched on.

Faversham Community Christmas Lights work hard to ensure the town enjoys a spectacular festive display each year. The fruits of their labour can be seen on Saturday, when residents will be invited to gather in Market Square at 5pm.

The lights will be on display until January 6.

The Final Act fund-raiser is so good it'll be deadly

GET involved in murder with the latest exciting production at the Arden Theatre, Faversham.

Written by local man Brian Booth, *The Final Act* is a murder mystery with audience participation. The new production is staged to raise money for the ongoing fund for improvements to the theatre. It is Mr Booth's 12th murder mystery play.

The Final Act will be performed on Friday and Saturday. To book tickets call 01795 531600 or Arden's Restaurant on 01795 590008.

Enjoy fish and chips as you listen to some jazz

ENJOY a sing-along, jazz style, at St Peter's & St Paul's Church in Ospringe this weekend.

Listen to songs of the 20s, 30s and 40s or sing along to the music of Banjo Keefe Fav 4. The concert is being held at 7.45pm on Saturday, to raise money for the church and national homeless charity Crisis.

Tickets cost £8 including a fish and chip supper. For more details call 01795 530854 or 533272.

Grand opening leads to murder in mystery night

AMATEUR sleuths are invited to pit their wits against a murderer at the Shepherd Neame Visitor Centre.

On Friday, *Between The Lines* presents *High Spirits*, a murder mystery set against the backdrop of a pub's grand opening. When tensions between guests leave one of them dead, can you uncover the culprit?

Tickets cost £34.95 including a three-course dinner. To book call 01795 542285 or visit www.shepherdneame.co.uk.

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yourswalestyle

Yummy mummy

See how style guru Nicole gave Sunita a new look

YOUNG mum Sunita Ralh decided she needed to dump her T-shirt and jeans for a new glam look so we sent her along to Detail Style image studio to meet Nicole Pitt-Williams, a qualified fashion and image stylist.

Sunita was determined to find some alternatives that are simple to maintain as she juggles a hectic life as a full-time mum and beauty therapy student.

"But I still like to have fun with my girlfriends when I have the chance and I wanted Nicole to help me find the right look," she said.

First Nicole gave Sunita, 27, from Folkestone, a colour consultation to find the perfect hues to complement her skin tone, eye and hair colour.

She explained: "I then moved on to the style consultation, which looks at the body as a whole and works on proportions, camouflaging the parts we like to hide and highlighting the assets."

So it was off to New Look in Ashford, where they stock the fabulous Inspire range for sizes 18-26 and offer excellent value to fit Sunita's budget.

Sunita said: "I'm really happy with the result and now I'm looking forward to showing off my new looks. And



GIRL'S GOT STYLE: Casual (Jeans, price £12; top, price £10; faux fur gilet, price £10) or smart (Dress, price £25; shrug, price £12; bow shoes, price £20), Sunita has a new style for every occasion, and has been transformed from her previous self, left

thanks to the colour swatch and a shopping guide, I'm now really looking forward to shopping alone."

Nicole aims during her consultations to help people find out about styles that suit their body, colours that them perfectly and useful ways of saving money.

So, as well as looking slimmer, younger, more professional and feeling more confident, Detail Style aims help you to shop smart too.

Prices for Nicole's help start from £25. But readers can have a free no obligation 30-



minute consultation, by calling Nicole on 01303 245028 or email her on Nicole@detail-style.com.

And the first 15 readers to contact Nicole will receive a free 50 image Essential Style guide. Nicole will be running style workshops soon – the first will be held in Folkestone on Saturday, December 6.

• Sunita had her hair restyled by Rachel at DIVA Hair Design, Hythe, 01303 266364
Photographs were taken at The Grand, The Leas, Folkestone.



BEFORE: Jeans and T-shirt

Party perfect

Budget high street frocks mean Cinderella can still go to the ball



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DEBENHAMS
Pierce Fonda Flamenco ruffle prom dress, price £150

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COLLEGE GIRL

Short trench coat, price £25;
top, price £10; jeans, price £12



DEBENHAMS

Star by Julien
MacDonald body con
dress, price £45



BHS
Fuchsia and
lace dress,
price £40

SWALE SHOPPING

Snap up some goodies from the Continent

THE German Christmas Market, now a well established highlight of Canterbury's Christmas calendar, has returned.

Brightly lit wooden chalets, selling a wide range of gifts, decorations and continental foods, will once again be in Whitefriars and Clocktower Squares.

The market will be open from 10am-6pm seven days a week, with later hours in the run-up to Christmas and on Thursday evenings. Final day of trading will be December 23.

Meet Father Christmas and help the animals

IN the run up to Christmas, Santa Claus will visit Wildwood animal park between Herne Bay and Canterbury.

He will be making time in his busy schedule to meet children in his specially designed grotto just outside the shop. Visitors can also see a herd of fallow and red deer; cousins of Santa's reindeer.

All money raised will be used to support the conservation of rare British species such as water voles, red squirrels and dormice. Cost £2 per child, please book on 01227 712111.

Say cheese! Expert has some tips on best buys

STOCK your Christmas cheese board with help from an expert as Kevin Beer reveals his top tips.

Mr Beer is a cheese grader for Pilgrims Choice West Country Farmhouse Cheddar and he tastes about 40,000 cheeses every year. His recommendations for the perfect cheese board are Pilgrims Choice Mature Cheddar; Belton Red Leicester; Somerset brie; Webster's stilton and Wensleydale with cranberries.

Pilgrim's Choice Cheddar is available from supermarkets, priced from £1.95.

Quirky liner helps you to never forget an item

WITH a busy festive season ahead many women will be doing a lot of handbag swapping, from office bags to casual or evening versions.

It can be easy for some essential items to be overlooked, which is why Quirkybags has produced the VIP Handbag Liner range, priced from £23. There are four styles available in a variety of sizes and each features 9 zipped and meshed pockets, allowing the contents to be lifted from one bag to the next. There is even one for men.

To order call 01508 480249 or visit www.quirkybags.co.uk.

Create a special Disney book for your child

GIVE your child a magical Christmas present with a personalised story book from Disney.

WHSmith is offering the chance to create a customised book featuring your child's name and personal details alongside their favourite characters from films like Toy Story and Ratatouille.

Until December 10, WHSmith is offering a 20 per cent discount on orders over £30. Order at www.whsmith.co.uk.

Prices start at £8.99 with delivery from £1.99. Allow up to 21 days for delivery.

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York, USA – Saint John, New Brunswick – Digby,
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Canada – Charlottetown – St. Pierre,
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Dover, Torshavn, Faroes – Reykjavik,
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Canada – Montreal, Canada – Fly UK

Montreal – Halifax

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Fly UK – Montreal, Canada – Baie Commeau,
Quebec – Portland, USA – Boston, USA – Oak
Bluffs, USA – New York, USA – Saint John,
New Brunswick – Digby, Canada – Halifax,
Canada – Fly UK

Halifax – Dover

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13 Nights
Inside – £906
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CHOKE (18)



From maverick author Chuck Palahniuk (*Fight Club*) and new writer-director Clark Gregg comes the subversively comedic tale of Victor Mancini, con artist, sex addict, colonial village re-enactor, angst-filled son, serial restaurant choker... and unsuspecting romantic antihero for our unsettling times.

MAX PAYNE (15)



Based on the video game, Max Payne tells the story of a maverick cop determined to track down those responsible for the brutal murder of his family and partner. Hell-bent on revenge, his obsessive investigation takes him on a nightmare journey into a dark underworld.

Leo on the party line

BY KATE WHITING

LEONARDO DiCaprio has come a long way from being the 23-year-old heartthrob who sparked teenage mania in the blockbusting tearjerker *Titanic*.

Ten years on he still has the same youthful good looks, which today are partially covered with a little beard, and he still draws a screaming crowd to premieres, but he's a far more serious actor.

He campaigns about the environment, is politically outspoken and chooses his roles carefully.

When we meet to discuss his latest film, *Body Of Lies*, at a swish London hotel, it's just days after Barack Obama's historic US presidential election victory and DiCaprio is clearly thrilled.

"I was in Rome [on election day]. I stayed up all night and watched the results come in and it was an overwhelming, resounding victory for our fantastic new president. I couldn't be more excited," he says.

Appropriately, *Body Of Lies* deals with the very real ramifications of the outgoing President George W Bush's 'war on terror' in the Middle East.

DiCaprio plays Roger Ferris, a CIA agent on the ground, spying on terrorist cells, while a fattened-up Russell Crowe plays Ed Hoffman, who plans Ferris' operations from his laptop back home in the USA.

The 34-year-old said: "In a turbulent time like this, when the US is occupying the Middle East, here you have a highly trained CIA operative who's very effective at what he does, he's forged valuable relationships in the Middle East but he's not looking for that



YOUR CALL: Leonardo DiCaprio plays CIA agent Roger Ferris in *Body of Lies*

quick fix, the appearance of victory, he's looking for long-term solutions and he's trying to respect the culture and reach a positive result. Meanwhile his country is constantly undermining him and usurping his intelligence and I feel like my character was operating in a higher moral context than his country would like him to, and that's fascinating for me.

"He also goes on a long journey where he isn't beholden to any country or idealistic thought or political regime, and he doesn't

necessarily believe in the war. What a great character to be able to play, certainly at a time like this."

You could almost believe that DiCaprio was talking about himself or the new US administration.

"There's a lot of differences between the old administration and the new one," he says.

"Obama's been very vocal about wanting to stop the war in the Middle East and the American people have spoken in droves

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about that as well. What's been beautiful for me, going on this film tour, is to see how supportive the rest of the world has been about Obama winning.

"It's really a special time in my life to watch this historic event and it's been more profound that I ever imagined."

In January, DiCaprio will team up with *Titanic* co-star Kate Winslet again in the Oscar-tipped *Revolutionary Road*, directed by Winslet's husband, Sam Mendes.

But rather than recapturing the star-crossed lovers on the doomed ship, DiCaprio and Winslet play a young couple in 1950s America, struggling to make their relationship work.

"She's one of my best friends and we've been in communication a lot since *Titanic*. This project sort of came out of nowhere, it was one she had secretly been developing," he explains.

"We both knew the territory very well and all the stuff that would come with us working together again, but this was a unique piece of material. For a relationship movie, this was diametrically opposed to what we had done before."



BODY OF LIES
Certificate 15

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Fri – 8.50pm
- ▶ **Partition Cert TBA**
Sat – 8.50pm, Sun – 6.20pm
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- ▶ **Good Dick 15**
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YOUR TV REVIEW



RUDE TUBE

E4, 10pm, Wednesday



A QUESTION OF SPORT

BBC One, 7.30pm, Friday

■ BY TOM BETTS

THOSE of you who are not internet-crazy but still interested in what is going on online may want to check out Rude Tube, E4's window into the best of what video-hosting sites like YouTube have to offer.

What's good about this show is that, due to the rapidly evolving nature of the World Wide Web, there's so much to choose from that even the most ardent surfer will miss some things.

As well as steering the way to an occasional classic (that guy who danced his silly dance in ever more exotic locations around the globe), there are pointers to those less well-known clips, the little gems that may have passed you by.

From the man who took a picture of himself every day for six years, to Alanis Morissette's unique take on the Black Eyed Peas hit My Lumps, the choice is almost infinite.

While Rude Tube is not a show to slap in your diary, as half an hour of escapism and a look at the weird and wonderful world of the web, it delivers quite nicely.

A Question of Sport is a funny old animal these days, is it not?

When I was a lad, just knee-high to Emlyn Hughes's shinpads or Bill Beaumont's rugby socks, this was a solid bit of family viewing with a winning formula.

Picture Board, What Happened Next, oh, and who's that dressed as a milkman in the Mystery Guest round... Linford Christie or Martin Offiah?



WRONG ANSWER: Question of Sport captains Dawson (left) and Tufnell are not up to scratch

You could set your watch by the formula, it was like a reliable family friend similar to the man with the deep voice who announces the football scores.

It's all gone to pot these days, though, and now seems to be more of a personality contest than a sports quiz.

Main offenders are Phil Tufnell and the easy-to-despise Matt Dawson, show-off extraordinaire and possibly the cockiest man on the box right now.

The most amusing part of the show these days is trying to keep track of the never-ending amount of handshakes handed out by Tuffers (seriously, try... it's almost mesmerising).

Not content with ruining this classic, for some strange reason the Beeb has even started to repeat this one on Monday nights, while we have to wait for original programming, the rather good Inside Sport.

It's not A Question of Sport, and furthermore it's not cricket either.

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

WORKING with a charitable organisation brings out your leadership skills. You're able to keep people focused on the ideals of a project, rather than the niggling details. A benefactor could give you money to continue with a bold initiative. Be sure to use the cash wisely.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

AN irresistible sexual attraction could throw life off kilter. This was the last thing you were expecting. If you're already in a relationship, you need to decide whether you're going to stay with your partner or break ties altogether. Resist the temptation to take the middle road.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

DISCOVERING a hidden talent feels as though you've found a sixth sense. All of a sudden you appreciate life on levels you never dreamed possible. This creative turn will put you on the path to romance. If you have a lover, it will feel as though you've embarked on a second honeymoon.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

ADDITIONAL income could come your way. At long last, you'll be able to afford the luxuries you've always wanted. Be willing to tell a neighbour or sibling the painful truth. In time, they will thank you for your honesty and your reputation for good advice will blossom.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

YOU'RE in demand thanks to your ability to deal with people from all walks of life makes. Most of your time will be spent working behind the scenes and you'd rather work in private than have someone looking over your shoulder. Your new role will give you a fresh status.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

MAKING a serious commitment will result in a tremendous change. Operating as part of a team will change the way you view yourself. At long last, you realise you can't handle all of this responsibility by yourself. Leaning on someone who has your best interests at heart will be a relief.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)

MOVING home is looking likely and it will be a great for you, even if it means leaving friends and family behind. Being in new surroundings will force you to acquire skills you'd otherwise avoid like becoming a fully fledged artist or creative thinker.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

YOU'RE sure a bright idea will be well received and you're right. Your fiscal fortunes will dramatically improve as a result of sharing your knowledge, skill or expertise because people are eager to learn what you have to teach. Personally, a relationship will take on a lighter note.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

YOU'RE starting to realise it's necessary to leave your usual surroundings to make a personal discovery. Getting in touch with your needs may prompt you to embark on a new career path. It will be much easier to command authority and respect when you have a better sense of who you are.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)

THIS week brings you the determination and drive to take better care of yourself. Losing weight, eating better, and getting enough sleep makes you look years younger. Job opportunities related to travel, publishing, and education need to be checked out.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)

PICKING up new knowledge will be an exciting turning point for you. Big changes look likely at home as well. You may have to stand up for what you believe to be right and part ways with a relative who has upset you in some way. Your self assertive stance will give you confidence.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

BREAKING a bad habit or overcoming a pessimistic attitude will liberate you physically and spiritually. As a result, you'll be able to assert yourself with renewed strength and vigour. Putting an end to out-moded relationships gives you more time to do what you love.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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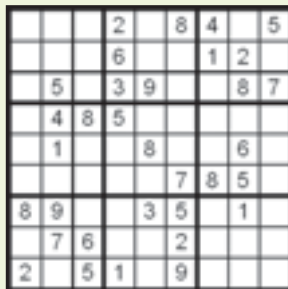
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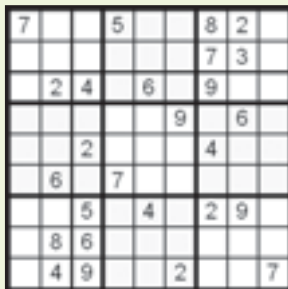
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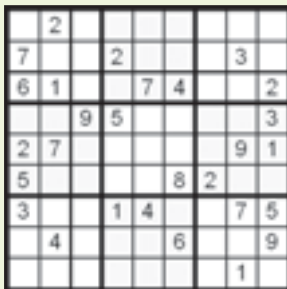
EASY



MEDIUM



HARD



CRYPTIC CLUES

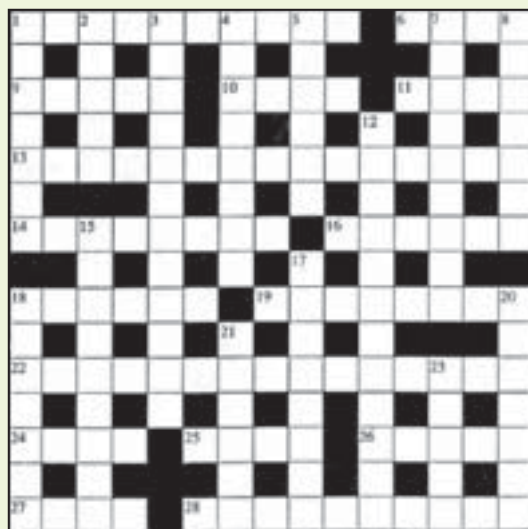
ACROSS

- 1 Jo is citing problem of being patriotic (10)
- 6 Boat from Cowes (not East) (4)
- 9 Army chief encountered heavenly body (5)
- 10 Still in tropical monsoon! (4)
- 11 In error I ask for drink (4)
- 13 Patient female attendants? (6-2-7)
- 14 Brightness in arcade flickering (8)
- 16 Opinion needed when one is divided by 506 (6)
- 18 Disc that is hanging loosely? (6)
- 19 Cold part of the motorway? (8)
- 22 Ten Commandments (9/6)
- 24 It depends on the listener (4)
- 25 Branch member (4)
- 26 Be removing exits (5)
- 27 Joke, one that's fatuous (4)
- 28 Unwilling, so to speak, to include first road, road in USA (10)

DOWN

- 1 Knave visual and humorous (7)
- 2 No crazy wanderer (5)
- 3 Behaving violently above the slope long time afterwards (2,3,7)
- 4 Brief cuts in CC transferred (8)
- 5 They are legally related (2-4)
- 7 Has been made more understandable now it has been purified (9)
- 8 Endless worm squirm (7)
- 12 Parts of a deer's rump? (12)
- 15 Scrawl 'insect' on the bomb (9)
- 17 Charlie exchanged blue garment (8)
- 18 Gore elf spilt on front 25 across! (7)
- 20 Prize - small flower (7)
- 21 Pocket charge for medicine (6)
- 23 Lady, one going before Beth (5)

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QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 With strict walking pace (4,3,3)
- 6 Blackleg (4)
- 9 Crash (5)
- 10 Mechanical procedure (4)
- 11 Disadvantage (4)
- 13 One in the same vehicle (6-9)
- 14 Legislator (8)
- 16 Rhododendron-like plant (6)
- 18 Senility (6)
- 19 Throbbled (8)
- 22 Not a warm welcome (6,9)
- 24 Straight line (4)
- 25 Jazz dance (4)
- 26 Dismay (5)
- 27 Act silently (4)
- 28 Type of egg (4-6)

DOWN

- 1 Optimistic (7)
- 2 Electronic post (5)
- 3 Perfectly balanced (2,4,2,4)
- 4 Rodeo hat (anag.), lady's name (8)
- 5 Bandit (6)
- 7 Illuminated with wax cylinders (9)
- 8 Irish interjection (7)
- 12 Voice higher than contralto (5-7)
- 15 Amusing remark (9)
- 17 Speediest (8)
- 18 Harangue (7)
- 20 Hung freely (7)
- 21 Twelfth Night character (6)
- 23 Drive forward (5)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No63

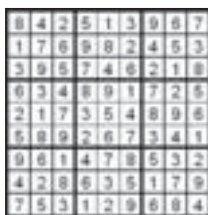
EASY



MEDIUM



HARD



Answers to all of this week's quizzes can be found on our website

CRYPTIC SOLUTION No63

ACROSS: 1 Watch 4 Machismo 8 Across-the-board 10 Plutonium 11 Glove 12 Ruin 13 Venetian 17 Prejudice 18 Help 22 Fight 24 Mainbrace 25 Busman's holiday 26 Reproach 27 Shred. DOWN: 1 Wrapper 2 Turquoise 3 Hyssop 4 Matrix 5 Cream tea 6 Iron-grey 7 Margo 9 Keen 14 Icelander 15 Customer 16 Egomaniac 17 Puff 19 Pie-eyed 20 Eighth 21 Obelus 23 Gauze.

QUICK SOLUTION No64

ACROSS: 1 Janus 4 Shipmate 8 Clutch at 16 Quackery 17 Form 19 Holy See 20 3 Sachet 4 Sea-air 5 Insignia 6 Marzipan 7 Rhyme 1 Jackdaw 2 Neoplatonist 25 Knickerbocker 26 Neophyte 17 Flashgun 18 Leah 22 River 24 Straws 10 Deafening 11 Index 12 Waive 15

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Take the big ship to Dunkirk

■ BY GARY WRIGHT

WE'RE pretty lucky here in Kent: we can genuinely boast some beautiful countryside, some great restaurants and decent days out.

All in all it's a good place to live.

And when we want to get away for a few days, we are surely the best placed in Britain: Europe is just 22 miles away.

I never understand why people subject themselves to a day driving to Devon or Cornwall only to face endless jams and over-priced food?

Heading across the Channel has always seemed the better option to me.

Two hours on a ferry and you are in a charming foreign country and if the mood takes you, you can be in a Mediterranean cafe in less time than it takes you to drive to a Cornish beach in summer.

And for a short break, France has always offered the people of Kent a lot.

I'd forgotten what Dunkirk was like. It's right on our doorstep really but over the years I have missed it because I've either turned right at the port heading for Le Touquet or Normandy or if I have turned left I've generally been heading for Germany or further east.

NorfolkLine ferries out of Dover will take you to Dunkirk port in two hours for just £19 if you chose your time right.

Well the port's not actually in Dunkirk, the town's another 11km east but don't miss the charming little town of Gravelines which is actually much closer and definitely worth a visit.

A walled town surrounded by canals, it has markets twice a week, pretty architecture and my meal in Le Harlequin restaurant near the seafront ranks in my top ten seafood meals, ever.

Dunkirk though is a bustling town which still feels prosperous and balances nicely its



HISTORIC PORT: The Duchesse Anne, one of the Musee Portuaire attractions in Dunkirk

historic past and industrial present with the shopping and restaurants demanded by visitors.

After a few days in France the only thing I ever miss is a decent cup of tea, so I was pleasantly surprised to find a really lovely tearoom, La Palmeraie.

It's decorated with an African jungle theme, tucked away just off the main shopping centre, and it is popular with locals of all ages who popped for a cup of Darjeeling or Earl Grey (or about a dozen other types) along with a crepe or gaufre (a pancake or waffle respectively).

Dunkirk has a lot of history, founded in the 8th Century it is still France's third most important port (and I learned the very last city to be liberated in 1945).

Damn, I was determined not to mention 1940, Operation Dynamo or the Little Ships, so I won't – but be assured the town has not forgotten.

History goes back way before the Wars though, so look out for Jean Bart. You won't miss him, there's a huge statue in the centre of town.

Part private pirate and part French naval man, during the late 1600s Dunkirk's most celebrated son saved Paris from starvation and gave the British Navy a kicking at sea too.

An interesting chap as I discovered to my delight at the Musee Portuaire (picture left).

I'm not a big fan of museums but I was genuinely pleased I popped in. Alongside a look the dockworkers' lives over the years in Dunkirk, and a summary of the aforementioned M. Bart's successes, there is a special exhibition until January: The Story of the Liner.

Dunkirk made 11 between 1914 and 1966 and the museum shows models with mock up cabins and uniforms. But the jewel for me is the 24-minute colour promotional film from 1953. A true insight into the time complete with period racial stereotyping and everyone smoked (well they were French).

Nowadays smoking indoors is banned and the social character of France has changed slightly. But for a couple of days, the town offers a convenient taste of France on our doorstep.

We would like to thank the tourism offices in Dunkirk and Gravelines and Norfolkline Ferries (0844 8475042 or www.Norfolkline.com) for their help.



MALO les BAINS: Where holidaymakers head in Dunkirk for the summer

FACT FILE: FRANCE

Time difference	UK plus 1 hr
Capital	Paris
Population	60.7 million
Language	French
Climate	North, as UK
Religion	Catholic
Currency	Euro (1.17 approx to £1)

Travel details

There are several themed short break programmes for stays in Dunkerque and the French Flanders region through the Office de Tourisme Dunkerque Dunes de Flandre region.

Breaks include a Discovery Weekend from 69 euros to discover the maritime and wartime history of Dunkerque: includes a pass to its museums, a port tour, free public transport and shopping coupons. From 69 euros per person (two people sharing a double room); you can have 1 night B&B in a 2 star hotel, dinner and a tourist pass.

Other breaks include the Dunkerque Gourmet Weekend from 99 euros per person.

Discovering the fortifications of Gravelines and its history costs from 91 euros per person (based on two people sharing). One night at a bed and breakfast or hotel, gourmet dinner, museum entry a canal tour, audioguide of the walled town.

For more information visit: www.flandrecotedopale.com or email: dunkerque@flandrecotedopale.com

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PROPERTY NEWS

'Tenants can look beyond social sector'

HOUSING minister Margaret Beckett has distanced herself from reports that the Government is considering scrapping lifetime social tenancies, but she has said she would like to see people try to move into the private sector.

Speaking at a seminar organised by The Smith Institute think tank, Mrs Beckett described the housing reform green paper on social housing as "very much a work in progress".

She said: "I've made no decision, and nor has any minister, on the content and timing of the green paper."

"We've made substantial improvements to the housing stock, [but] we've not been nearly so good in investing in people who are living in these homes."

And Mrs Beckett indicated that she wanted to encourage social tenants or would-be social tenants to look beyond social housing to the private sector.

"If people could find greater stability and security in the private rented sector, or could take advantage of low-cost home ownership, then maybe fewer would think social housing was their only option," she said.

Charity alarmed by economic distress

EIGHTY per cent of those who took part in a recent survey want the Government to be more active in helping homeowners at risk of having their homes repossessed to combat the risk of people being forced on to the streets this winter.

The poll, for homeless charity St Mungo's, also found 52 per cent of Britons are concerned about their financial situation and more are now cutting down their spending on gas, electricity, heating and food.

"We are witnessing a downturn in the economy that is being felt at all levels of society," said St Mungo's chief executive Charles Fraser.

"The Government needs to act quickly if we are to avoid a sharp increase of rough sleepers on the streets."



AT RISK: Winter on the streets



WHAT AM I BID?: Even auctions – normally a guaranteed way of shifting houses – have been unable break the credit crunch's stranglehold on the property market, forcing agents and sellers to become more creative and proactive

A real hammering

■ BY NICK AMES

THE economic situation could mean a new approach for professionals selling homes, according to experts.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors says the business of typical 'old-style' estate agents has hit a 30-year low, selling an average of just one home a week.

Property auctions have usually been regarded as a surefire way of getting rid of homes that are difficult to shift, but one last month involved 74 lots of homes and land – and received just three bids and no sales.

While some vendors are now adopting unusual tactics, from staging raffles to throwing in free cars or holidays with their homes, a few pioneering estate agents are considering revolutionising the way they sell properties.

Lauristons estate agent is now charging a £999 flat fee for selling a home instead of the

two per cent to three per cent charged by most of its high street rivals, saving prospective sellers of average priced properties as much as £8,000.

"The market's changing and the current economic climate means it probably won't be the same in the future," warned the firm's sales and marketing director, Steve Truman.

Thornley Groves, a traditional estate agency chain, has bought 25 per cent of Brightsale, a pioneering online estate agency.

Brightsale has no physical 'branch'. Its trained negotiators instead advise sellers on how to handle buyers, and will arrange floor plans, photographs and brochures. The fee, if a home sells, is 0.5 per cent, or only a sixth of the levy by many conventional agents.

"We'd been searching for a way to bring

estate agencies into the 21st century. Clients love what we do but in the internet era they expect more," said Thornley Groves' managing director, Michael Groves.

"Estate agencies have a long way to go to harness the power of the internet for the benefit of their customers."

Two other estate agents are trying a different idea – swapping houses. Lynn Thompson and Chris Tinsley run separate agencies but have joined forces to try to 'match' sellers, who are encouraged to swap properties of equal value, or trade up or down and pay the difference.

While some of these pioneering efforts may fall by the wayside when the housing market picks up – business consultancies and agents themselves suggest 2010 as the earliest date that will happen – at least a few of these schemes may last long enough to become mainstream as house selling changes.

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MOTORS NEWS



Hyundai and Kia soar to join top five carmakers

AUTOCAR magazine has named Hyundai-Kia as its Automotive Manufacturer of the Year at its annual award ceremony in London.

Citing the Korean giant's "mind-blowing" ambition, editor Chas Hallett presented the title to Mr Nam-Yong Kim, president of Hyundai-Kia's European research and development centre in Germany.

Hallett said: "When the irrepressible Hyundai-Kia group started talking, just a few years ago, about wanting to become the world's fifth largest car company behind Toyota, GM, Ford and Audi-VW, many of us were sceptical.

"Then the Korean group got serious. They hatched a plan to assemble a European design and engineering team to conceive a range of models for Europe."

The product of a merger in 1998, Hyundai-Kia currently dominate the Korean domestic car market with an 80 per cent share and this year became the world's fifth largest car-maker according to Automotive News in the US.



Asda sparks price war by cutting petrol costs

SUPERMARKET giant Asda has reignited the fuel price war by lowering its petrol prices to 90.9p per litre.

It is Asda's tenth consecutive cut since July and brings prices to their lowest level since April 2007. The price of diesel has been reduced to 105.9p per litre.

With the price of crude oil continuing to fall, other retailers will be under pressure to follow Asda's lead.

The price of a barrel has dropped to barely 50 US dollars (£33), from almost \$150 (£100) in early July.

Car giants beg for cash

THE three biggest US carmakers have pleaded with Congress for a \$25 billion lifeline to save their once-proud companies from collapse.

"Our industry... a bridge to span the financial chasm that has opened up before us," said General Motors' chief Rick Wagoner.

Chrysler chief Robert Nardelli, added that a bailout would be "the least costly alternative" when compared with damage from bankruptcy.

But Republican Senators argues that "inefficient production" and "costly labour agreements" have put the US carmakers at a disadvantage against foreign rivals.



A BRIGHT FUTURE: Instead of dithering with a facelift of the 2002 Fiesta, Ford has completely restyled its latest creation with a coupé roofline and excellent handling

Ford changes into top gear with new Fiesta

HAVING done more than anyone to make the supermini popular in the UK after launching the original Fiesta in 1976, Ford then rested on its laurels.

The company will say the newly-launched replacement is the 'Mark VII', but it is really only the fourth generation.

Ford has turned Fiesta facelifts into an art form and even managed to spin-off the guts of one version to create the underpinnings of the original Ka. You just have to admire such salesmanship and nerve, though it helps when you are market leader and have a vice-like grip on the fleet sector.

But times are changing: the nation wants to downsize and cut costs and emissions while Ford would like to ease out of the cut-throat business sector, move upmarket and woo private buyers.

The US car giant is also looking outside the Fiesta's traditional UK and Europe stronghold, to create a global supermini with all the consequent economies of scale.

So, instead of dithering with a facelift of the

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BY STEVE LOADER

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Image	★★★★★
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then all-new – but not especially loved – 2002 Fiesta, Ford has gone for another fresh start.

And it's an impressive one.

Physically, the car is the same scale as before, rather than a 'super-supermini' like the Peugeot 207 and Renault Clio, perhaps to protect sales of the bigger Focus.

Nevertheless, I thought the knee room good, though lofty passengers will just have to lump it, for the terrific coupé roofline common to both body styles.

Styling inside is typically well-arranged and quality and durability is top-notch, but the drive clinches the deal for me; a well-judged balance between typically sharp handling and ride, light yet responsive steering and a terrific gearshift.

It is a tough call deciding the engine though. I like the all-round competence of the 1.4 TDCi diesel, but the frugal road tax-exempt/low emission 1.6TDCi diesel ECONetic is due in January.

Then again, do not ignore the petrol models; they are so quiet and frugal that they could be your best buy if petrol versus diesel pump prices still diverge and your mileages are only average.

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Model shown has optional 17-inch alloy wheels available at extra cost. Up to 74.3mpg figure refers to extra-urban cycle on the Corsa 1.3CDTi (75 PS). £35 refers to annual road tax cost on Corsa 1.3CDTi (75PS) models. No deposit 0% finance available on selected Corsa models. Finance by GMAC UK plc. applicants must be aged 18 or over. Finance offer available at participating retailers only. Offers may not apply to all retailer stocks. UK supplied vehicles only. A guarantee and/or indemnity may be required. Ecoflex offer is available on selected engines and applies to the trade in and agreement to scrap one vehicle only. To qualify for this offer, a customer must purchase one of the eligible models, trade in a vehicle and agree to scrap the vehicle. The trade in vehicle must have been registered in the name of the customer prior to 31.03.08. Vehicle must be able to be driven on the highway. The customer must supply a vehicle registration document (V5C) and a valid MOT certificate to the retailer for the trade in vehicle. Vauxhall will ensure the vehicle is scrapped under the end of life vehicle directive and a certificate of destruction will be held by the retailer. If the customer agrees to scrap the vehicle a total of £1000 (inc. VAT) will be paid towards the purchase of a new eligible model irrespective of the current market value of their vehicle. For more details on this offer and the eligible models go to www.offers.vauxhall.co.uk or visit your local retailer. Offers available to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). All other sales categories are excluded. All offers apply to selected new vehicles ordered or registered between 03.10.08 and 02.12.08, and are subject to status, eligibility, terms and conditions. (Vaux56009)

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2005	55*	Corsa SXI A/c	1.2	3	Silver lightening	66,975	4,295	2005	55	New Zafira Life A/c	1.6	5	Flame red	31,650	7,495
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2008	08	Corsa Design CDTi	1.3D	3	Star silver	4,150	9,995	2008	08	Zafira Club CDTi	1.9D	5	Star silver	8,500	12,495
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2006	06	Tigra Exclusiv	1.4	2	Star silver	15,975	9,995	2008	58	Vivaro SWB, Sportive	17 CDTi		White	Delivery	£8,995+VAT
2008	08	Tigra Exclusiv	1.4	2	Antigua	9,650	11,995	2008	08	Vivaro SWB, 90BHP	20 CDTi		Black	Delivery	£12,495+VAT
MERIVA								2008	08	Vivaro SWB 115BHP Ply lined	20 CDTi		White	Delivery	£10,995+VAT
2004	04	Meriva Life A/c	1.6	5	Spear mint silver	43,000	4,695	2008	58	Vivaro Sportive, SWB	20 CDTi		Silver	Delivery	£11,995+VAT
2006	56	Meriva Design CDTi Ext pack	1.7D	5	Metro blue	29,170	7,995	2008	58	Vivaro Sportive SWB	20 CDTi		Black	Delivery	£12,995+VAT
2008	08	Meriva CDTi Breeze +	1.3D	5	Star silver	3,350	11,995	2008	58	Vivaro Sportive Double cab	20 CDTi		Black	Delivery	£14,395+VAT
2008	08	Meriva Life A/c	1.3D	5	Star silver	2,870	8,195	2008	58	Vivaro Sportive, Double cab	20 CDTi		Silver	Delivery	£14,395+VAT
2008	08	Meriva Breeze	1.4	5	Black sapphire	12,500	8,995	USED SELECTION							
AGILA								2007	57	Astravan Club, CDTi	17D		White	5,445	£7,995+VAT
2001	51*	Agila Enjoy	1.2	5	Green tea	76,350	2,595	2007	57	Astravan Sportive	19 CDTi		Moonland	25,000	£8,295+VAT
ASTRA								2007	57	Astravan Sportive	19 CDTi		White	9,500	£8,250+VAT
2002	02*	Astra Elegance Auto	1.8	5	Black sapphire	51,700	3,695	2008	08	Astravan SE Sportive	19D		Star silver	5,760	£11,995+VAT
2003	03*	Astra Active	1.6	5	Star silver	33,350	3,995	2007	57	Combo Side door, ply lined	13D CDTi		White	13,475	£6,995+VAT
2005	55	Astra Breeze	1.6	5	Silver lightening	38,000	6,995	2007	57	Combo PAS	13D Crew van		White	8,700	£7,995+VAT
2007	07	Astra Energy Auto	1.8	5	Star Silver	15,300	7,995	2006	56	Movano 100bhp, Electric Pack	25 CDTi LWB		Silver	19,700	£9,995+VAT
2007	57	Astra Club CDTi Est	1.3D	5	Panacotta	8,275	11,995	2007	57	Movano Long wheel base, ply lined	25 CDTi		White	10,300	£12,995+VAT
2007	57	Astra Club CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	10,680	10,295	2008	08	Movano Bulkhead, MWB	25 CDTi		White	11,050	£10,995+VAT
2007	57	Astra SRI	1.8	5	Silver Lightning	9,650	9,995	2005	55*	Vivaro Long wheel base, Double cab	19D		Red	57,500	£8,995+VAT
2007	57	Astra Sport Twin Top	1.8	2	Star Silver	14,650	11,995	2007	57	Vivaro Short wheel base, ply lined	19 CDTi		White	12,100	£9,995+VAT
2008	57	Astra Breeze Plus	1.7D	5	Star silver	12,300	11,495	2007	57	Vivaro Alarm, Plylined, SWB	20 CDTi		White	11,780	£9,995+VAT
2008	57	Astra Club CDTi Est	1.3D	5	Star silver	17,300	10,995	2007	57	Vivaro SWB, air con, plylined	20 CDTi		White	9,250	£9,995+VAT
2008	08	Astra SXI	1.4	3	Black sapphire	6,300	9,495	2008	08	Vivaro 90bhp, electric pack	20 CDTi		Silver	Delivery	£11,150+VAT
2008	08	Astra SXI Sports Hatch	1.4	3	Star Silver	5,000	10,495	2008	08	Vivaro 115bhp, sportive	20 CDTi		Black	Delivery	£12,495+VAT
2008	08	Astra Design	1.8	5	Black	3,000	11,495	2008	08	Vivaro 115bhp, sportive	20 CDTi		Silver	Delivery	£12,495+VAT
2008	08	Astra Exclus IS200 Convertible	1.9D	2	Black	8,885	16,995	2008	08	Vivaro Plylined, LWB	20 CDTi		White	5,050	£11,995+VAT
2008	08	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.4	3	Black sapphire	2,595	10,495	2008	08	Vivaro Plylined, SWB	20 CDTi		White	16,050	£9,795+VAT
2008	08	Astra Sxi Sports Hatch	1.4	3	Star silver	7,950	10,495	2008	08	Vivaro Double cab, Sportive, Plylined	25 CDTi		Star silver	3,190	£16,995+VAT
2008	08	Astra Breeze CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	9,350	10,495	2008	58	Vivaro					£12,495+VAT
2008	08	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Black sapphire	5,400	9,695	2005	55*	Traffic LWB Aircon, Elec Windows	19 DTi		Blue	76100	£6,495+VAT
2008	08	Astra SRI CDTi Ext pack	1.9D	5	Star silver	5,630	13,995	DUE SOON							
2008	08	Astra Club Auto	1.8	5	Star silver	3,460	10,895	2004	54*	Vectra Life	1.8	5	Panacotta	80,100	3,995
2008	08	Astra Sxi Sports Hatch	1.4	3	Black sapphire	3,200	9,995	2005	05	Vectra SRI	2.2	5	Star silver	30,550	6,995
2008	08	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Moonland	4,500	9,495	2005	55	Vectra Exclusive CDTi Est	1.9D	5	Star silver	23,800	8,250
ZAFIRA								2008	57	Vectra CDTi Exclusive Auto	1.9D	5	Ultra blue	5,350	11,995
2005	05	Zafira Design	1.6	5	Silver lightening	36,280	6,195	2008	08	Vectra Exclusive CDTi	1.9D	5	Silver	9,380	10,495
2005	05	Zafira Life	1.8	5	Ultra blue	38,250	5,995	*Non Network Q Vehicle							

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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

BABY HOT HATCHES

IT'S not just owners of family cars who are having to downsize their ambitions under pressure from rising fuel costs and road tax – performance car owners are also having to get real. Their answer can be found in the buoyant secondhand market for supermini hot hatchbacks like the three little scorchers featured here. No, your insurance premiums won't be a lot better, but you will save on fuel and tax and driving enjoyment could be even higher than before, even if some creature and ride comfort is sacrificed.

FORD FIESTA ST



FORD has been one of the champions of hot hatches over the years with its XR and recent ST versions of standard models. The Fiesta ST upholds the tradition in terms of pace and handling even if it can be noisy and ride comfort is primitive. Power comes from a feisty 148bhp 2.0-litre engine so the lowered stance and styling add-ons do not flatter to deceive but, as when new, the Fiesta is not the cheapest contender on the market.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

MITSUBISHI COLT CZT



SOMETHING of an unsung hero, this turbocharged 150bhp 1.5-litre three-door supermini delivers a lot of bangs for your bucks and withstands the potential thrashing hot hatchbacks can be exposed to. 'Mitsi' has made a good job of ensuring the car's extra urge is delivered progressively and when you want it, although the driving experience is not one of the best. The car is well made though and spacious and imaginatively trimmed inside.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

SEAT IBIZA CUPRA



SEAT is the affordable performance brand in the VW Group, with its FR and Cupra versions of standard cars epitomising that label and winning big sales. The Ibiza Cupra is one of the stars and usually seen in bright yellow and red; something of trademark in a market where most cars have a metallic paint job. Diesel and petrol versions are offered and share pin sharp handling and a decent ride quality – not always compatible in a small hot hatch.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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Red, FSH, 1 Owner
30,000 Miles, £7995
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Lineage
Approx. 20 words

£7
Lineage
p/wk

FORD FOCUS LX 1.6
01/Y, 5dr, Hatchback,
Metallic Red, Full Service
History, 1 Owner, Power
Steering, Elec.
Windows, ABS,
30,000 Miles,
01234 567890

3x1
Max. 25 words

£9.50
3x1 Box Ad
p/wk



01/Y, 5dr, Hatchback, Metallic Red, Full Service
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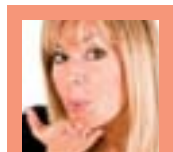
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WOMEN seeking men

LOVELY SUSIE
Sensitive, shy and caring lady, 20, loves life and sunsets, beaches, country walks, romantic meals, cinema, WLTm handsome gent to find love with. Box 446323

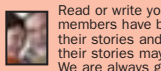
SINGLE DAD WANTED
Single mum, 23, nice and curvy, 5ft6, blonde, blue eyes, likes shopping, cinema and animals, WLTm an honest and trustworthy male, 28-38. Box 446099

I LOVE FOOTBALL
Fun to be with blonde female, 25, 5ft2, loves football, going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man to be my soulmate. Box 446494

MAYBE MORE
Seeking fun, friendship, maybe more. WLTm fun man 25-30. I'm female, 26, brown hair/blue eyes and of average build. Box 446522

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If you can't find who you're looking for on our page here, you will find so many more members online. Browse, read, hear and see members.

www.people2people.co.uk/kos.asp

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

Lively female, 26, 5ft2, brown hair, green eyes, size 10, single mum, enjoys most things, seeks genuine, laid-back guy, for fun, friendship and more. Box 428555

HOLD MY HAND

Single mum, 28, looking for LTR. I enjoy cosy nights in, dancing, dinner out, I'm 5ft1, short hair, blue eyes. Box 445363

SNUGGLE UP

Tall, attractive, good hearted African female, 28yr old, enjoys films, good food and cuddles, WLTm a white male for friendship and romance. Box 441654

CUDDLY FEMALE

32, 5ft9, brown hair, curvy figure, enjoys having fun and a laugh, and WLTm nice, kind gent. Box 439402

ATTENTION! TALL WHITE GUY REQUIRED

Pretty black female, 32, tall, loves watching football, shopping, travel, seeking tall, white, loving male, 34-47, for LTR. Chatham. Box 437778

CHANGE OF SCENERY

31yr old bubbly, fun-loving female, like reading, cinema, looking for tall, dark and handsome male, GSOH, for happy times. Brighton Box 438557

NO TIMEWASTERS!

Easilygoing female, 32, enjoys shopping, football, eating out, cosy night in, WLTm loving, caring white male 35-47 for long term loving relationship. Box 442414

TAKE ME OUT

Single Mum, 32, cuddly larger lady, 5ft8, dark brown hair, seeking someone to have fun, a dance, some drinks, meals and more with. Box 438941

HORSES FOR COURSES...

Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013

CANTERBURY TALE

Single mum of 2, 32, WLTm someone kind, caring and considerate, for nights in and cinema. Ryan from Whitstable, please call again, leave contact details! Box 438701

FUN-LOVING FEMALE

Attractive, 31, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tall, WLTm intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a loving relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308724

SEIZE THE DAY

Loving female, 36, 5ft4, brown hair, green eyes, likes socialising, staying in, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 428666

MEND A BROKEN HEART

Single mum, 37, fun-loving, been hurt in past, looking for nice, genuine guy for hopeful happiness - no time wasters! Box 308053

ON THE LOOKOUT FOR LOVE

37yr old female, 2 kids, slim, brown hair and eyes, 5ft2, looking for a male to be my someone special. Box 446552

LOVE TO LOVE YOU

Lovely female, 36, 5ft4, medium-large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102

THE HOME LIFE

Happy, caring female, homely, tactile and honest, I'm black African, 41, 5ft2, medium build, would like LTR with the right person. Box 446024

BORN TO MAKE YOU HAPPY

Caring lovely lady, 42, genuine, short brown hair, lacks confidence seeking loyal, genuine person, someone special to put the spark back into my life. Box 885761

FAIRY TALE ENDING

Good-looking slim blonde, 42, tired of kissing frogs, seeking an intelligent, solvent professional male to be my prince. Box 446521

YOU NEVER KNOW

Kind, loving, caring mum, 43, 5ft8, round but cuddly! Just looking for someone to share my life with...how about you? Box 446457

Join TODAY to receive FREE Alerts & Matches to your mobile.

(Saving you both time and money in your search for romance)

WHITE ROSES

Very attractive female, 42, slim, green eyes, high cheek bones, wicked SOH! Loves to make people laugh, seeking intelligent, well-mannered, kind man for friendship/relationship. Box 446543

WELL SEE

Blonde hair/blue eyes, 5ft5, slim, looking for friendship, maybe more. I'm a nice woman, 47, seeking good male, for friendship, possibly more. Box 445932

THIS STATE OF INDEPENDENCE

Hard-working female, 41, 5'4", bubbly, independent woman, love to laugh, socialising with friends, looking for independent man who values LTR. Box 441156

ATTRACTION

Professional female, 43, enjoys dancing, walking, reading and cooking, WLTm an intelligent professional male, who can hold a good conversation, for a relationship. Box 444282

POLISH LADY SEEKING...

Attractive Polish lady, 40s, loves art, film, music, cooking and long walks, seeking a fun gent, 35+, for a fun relationship. Box 445878

LOVELY JOSEPHINE

Passionate and fun-loving 43yr old female, enjoys clubbing, meals out and cooking, WLTm a male to share evenings out with. Box 445225

GENUINE REPLIES ONLY

Bubbly female, 44, brunette, N/S, medium/large build, enjoys friends and theatre, Would love to meet a decent fun-loving guy, similar age, per se non-smoker for LTR. Box 445955

LOVING, CARING & HONEST

Hard working single mum, young 44yr old, 5ft5, medium build, enjoys dining out, holidays, cinema and walks, WLTm a caring and genuine male for friendship/relationship. Box 444751

MISS JULIE

Bubbly blonde, 44, stupid and like having a laugh, good company, friendship, would like to meet new friends for hopeful love... Box 886162

SEEING THROUGH THE SHYNESS

Attractive female, 53, intelligent, kind, funny, non-smoking, WLTm nice, kind, normal male, 50-60, for theatre, laughs and more. Box 446383

THE GOLDEN YEARS

Blonde female 62yr old, divorced, slim, enjoys walks and trips to the seaside, WLTm a male, 59-64, for a loving companionship. Kent area only please. Box 442443

A GENUINE GENTLEMAN SOUGHT

Fun-loving active widow, 69, 5ft2, medium build, likes walking, gardening, music, animals, cosy nights in, the odd dance seeking genuine male for friendship, maybe more. Rochester. Box 884953

Women seeking women

FRIENDSHIP, MAYBE MORE
Curvy bi female, 32, seeks like-minded woman, for friendship, hopefully more. Single mum, work part time. Box 886142

ATTRACTIVE, BUBBLY LADY

52yrs, 5ft6, blonde, size 12 enjoys good food/wine, theatre, countryside, holidays, seeking a sincere, genuine female, for friendship first, possibly relationship Box 411413

LOVELY JO

Young-looking attractive female, 54, N/S, friendly and sociable, love music, dance and history, warm and sparkly, WLTm a genuine female for a close female friendship. Box 445146

REPLY to an ad, call:

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You can choose to text the member's 6-digit box number followed by a space, then your message (max of 160 characters) and send to 82250 e.g. 654321 My name is... Standard network rates apply to send messages. Successfully forwarded messages cost £1.50 per message.

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS

Hi, I'm Teresa, 33yr young, like animals, gardening and ordinary things! WLTm a nice man, my age or younger, for a possible relationship. Box 445707

COMPANIONSHIP, LAUGHTER, MORE

Curvy & cuddly, outgoing, friendly, honest female, 53, 5ft7, larger build, fair hair, likes socialising, country walks, theatre, cinema, music, swimming, WLTm similar loving male. Box 443642

SOPHISTICATED SUE

Sue, 56yr old, 5ft4, green eyes, petite, loves cooking, holidays, reading and swimming, WLTm a tall professional male, similar age, for friendship and romance. Box 443309

FANCY A RIDE?

Affectionate tactile bubbly woman, 56-63, 5ft7, blonde, curvy, looking for lasting relationship with 50-58 year old loving man. Box 886880

MAKE ME LAUGH, MAKE ME YOURS

Hi there, kind-hearted 57yr old sincere lady, non-smoker, recently separated, seeking kind, honest gent for friendship first and to make me laugh. Box 446337

HAND IN HAND, HEART TO HEART

Open-minded lady, 58, seeking male 56-63, 1 eye walking, eating out, gardening, foreign holidays and more. Box 446468

Quick, easy way to view a member's photo!

Just enter the six-digit Box number, followed by a space, then PHOTO and send to 82250

Your phone must be WAP-enabled £1.50 per photo

Add a photo of yourself

Register your number with us & send by SMS to 07746 738 788. Enter P2P as subject.

MMS - standard network charges apply.

HELP!

Positive, vivacious female, 59, 5ft4, enjoys art, seaside walks and music, seeks tallish, kind, caring male to grow old with...disgraceful! Box 444943

IS THERE SOMEONE OUT THERE?

Lovely lady, 62, 5ft3, medium build, brown hair/eyes, likes dancing, walks, animals, seeks caring, considerate, outgoing male for friendship leading to LTR. Box 446382

THE GOLDEN YEARS

Blonde female 62yr old, divorced, slim, enjoys walks and trips to the seaside, WLTm a male, 59-64, for a loving companionship. Kent area only please. Box 442443

A GENUINE GENTLEMAN SOUGHT

Fun-loving active widow, 69, 5ft2, medium build, likes walking, gardening, music, animals, cosy nights in, the odd dance seeking genuine male for friendship, maybe more. Rochester. Box 884953

Women seeking women

FRIENDSHIP, MAYBE MORE
Curvy bi female, 32, seeks like-minded woman, for friendship, hopefully more. Single mum, work part time. Box 886142

ATTRACTIVE, BUBBLY LADY

52yrs, 5ft6, blonde, size 12 enjoys good food/wine, theatre, countryside, holidays, seeking a sincere, genuine female, for friendship first, possibly relationship Box 411413

LOVELY JO

Young-looking attractive female, 54, N/S, friendly and sociable, love music, dance and history, warm and sparkly, WLTm a genuine female for a close female friendship. Box 445146

MEN seeking women

HE'S LOVE LEE!

Lee, 25, 5'11", green eyes/brown hair, looking for someone good-natured. Personality more important than looks. Box 813752

HOW CAN YOU RESIST?

Down-to-earth lovable guy, 30, 5ft8, stocky, blonde hair/blue eyes, likes the finer things in life, going out, eating in, pubs, WLTm genuine girl for LTR. Box 441945

CRAZY FOR YOU

Sue, athletic, red haired man, 32, 5ft10, green eyes, looking for a serious relationship with a bubbly female who loves fun and knows how to party. Box 884973

DREAMS COME TRUE

33yr old fun-loving lad, WLTm someone beautiful and intelligent to sweep me heart and fall in love with. Box 446369

TAKING IT EASY

Outgoing, confident guy, 39, 6ft, tall, athletic build, brown eyes, shaved head, loves going out/staying in and music, laid-back attitude seeking like-minded lady. Box 151143

DESTINED TO MEET U

Down-to-earth, caring, loving male, 31, 6'4", dark hair/eyes, likes sports, cinema, meals out, looking for fun, easygoing female, 20-45, for lasting love. Box 370046

WORKING OVERTIME

Self-employed male, 37, 6ft1, short brown hair, blue eyes, medium build, enjoys the gym, pubs, clubs, restaurants, WLTm female for long term relationship. Box 443065

NON-SMOKING

Separated male, 36, 6ft, good looks and SOH, kind, caring and sensual, into films and fitness. Seeking a cute to share life and love with. Box 445729

EVERYTHING I DO

Leads, driver, 39yr old, 6ft3, dark hair, like pubs, clubs, wine bars, places of interest, sports and reading, WLTm a woman for friendship and romance. Box 889720

SAILING THE SEVEN SEAS

Young-looking male, 38, 5ft9, dark hair, blue eyes, good-looking, no ties, a carpenter, likes the outdoors, seeks lady to sail off and find love with. Box 444937

R U A ME?

Down-to-earth, loyal guy, 36, looking for companionship, leading to a long-term relationship. Enjoys meals out, good company, conversation, cosy evenings in. Box 914917

ME AND YOU

Hi I'm Shawn, 39, likes most things in life, looking for a woman to settle down with. Box 446085

LOVE ON THE DANCEFLOOR

Outgoing young-minded male, 47, a smoker, likes war games, books, cinema, castles, etc. Seeking similar woman to boogie on the dancefloor with. Box 443750

PUT THAT SPARK BACK IN MY LIFE

Virgo male, 40, 5ft7, stocky, kind, loving, likes cinema, meals out, walks on beach, WLTm like-minded person to be my girl. Box 446211

ACCOMPANY ME

Torbridge guy, 42, 5ft6, brown hair/green eyes, I'm honest and loyal and I'm looking for the same in a woman. Box 445200

MINDS HIS OWN BUSINESS!

Attractive guy, nice to be with, laid back, I'm 41, 5ft8, medium/stoutish, brown hair. Own business/home, enjoys walks, pubs, wine, restaurants, cinema. Box 430286

ASHFORD MAN

Attractive guy, nice to be with, laid back, I'm 41, 5ft8, medium/stoutish, brown hair. Own business/home, enjoys walks, pubs, wine, restaurants and cinema. Box 437225

SILVER SERVICE!

Caring, understanding, not bad-looking, romantic male, 42, grey-silver hair, stocky, enjoys cooking, quiet nights in, seeks female, for romance, possible more. Box 157789

FUN AND CUDDLY

42yr old male, 5ft7, blue eyes, enjoys cinema, walking, swimming and cosy nights in, seeking a dame to rescue and be happy with. East Sussex Box 884544

LOVE ME DO

Caring and loving male, 43, average looks, self-employed, enjoys wild life, sci-fi and gardening, WLTm a petite female, 30-50, for a LTR. Box 444063

DON'T FORGET THIS ONE!

Hi, I'm Steve, 40s, 6ft2, muscular build, likes pubs/clubs and sport, WLTm a male, 40-46, for an everlasting relationship. Box 445541

SOULMATE SOUGHT

Devoted dad, 43, blonde hair, blue eyes, 6ft1, likes travelling, spiritualism, means to visit, seeking female with SOH for fun times and hopefully something else. Box 446477

DAD'S THE WORD

Lovely single male, 44, 6ft2, fair hair, great SOH, quite happy but looking for a lady 30-50 to have fun with and hopefully something else. Box 446452

A NICE GUY

Hi, I'm Jim, 6ft, 5'4", interests include listening out, cinema and swimming, WLTm a lady with similar interests and GSOH. Box 445650

DOWN TO MARGARET!

Young-looking, slim male, 43yr old, 5ft10, enjoys beach walks and cinema, WLTm a mature lady for a committed long term relationship. Margate Box 441706

BEEN HURT IN THE PAST

Single, divorced, hardworking guy, 40, mid 40s, not your average as I still love to enjoy life, see new places & meet interesting people! Box 445492

I'LL MAKE YOU LAUGH

Slim male, 44, blue eyes, fair hair, GSOH, very romantic, caring and loyal, WLTm a female with similar interests for a LTR. Hastings area. Box 446120

THE GOOD THINGS IN LIFE

Genuine honest guy, 45, looking for a lady who likes to have fun, eating out, travel and is looking for a soulmate. Box 446453

WHY WAIT?

Clean shaven, happy male, 45, stocky build, 5'10", smoker, single dad, GSOH, enjoys looking for friendship/companionship, leading to a LTR. Hailsham. Box 409782

ROMANCE, PASSION, LAUGHTER

Slim build male, 48, 6ft, dark brown hair, eyes, attractive, animated, confident, eclectic, seeking soulmate 43-53 forever. Box 446553

LOTS OF SMILES

Warm, sincere, N/S, eligible, stimulating male, 48, well-groomed, OHAC, 5'10", slim/medium, settled but playful, seeks similar lady to share LTR and smiles. Box 824095

IN YOUR EYES

Blond, blue-eyed male, 46, 5ft8, enjoys socialising, cinema, live alone in Ashford, looking for a great lady for fun, friendship, more. Box 421664

PICK OF THE DAY

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Senior & General Appointments 39-43

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Fuji Seal Europe Ltd.
The Fuji Seal Group is the only shrink sleeve manufacturer offering a complete single source solution utilising its network of manufacturing operations in the UK, Netherlands, France, Poland, USA, Asia and Japan. We are currently recruiting the following position:
COSTING ASSISTANT
We are seeking a methodical, extremely accurate and detail orientated person to join our costing team.
Computer literate, with an enthusiasm and flair for data analysis, the jobholder will be responsible for preparing prices following requests from the sales department. You will also be responsible for checking quotations and invoices. The job holder will need to be flexible and able to adapt urgently at short notice, whilst maintaining the discipline necessary to keep on track with all the other requirements of the job.
The jobholder must have excellent verbal and numerical skills and be able to work with tight deadlines. Teamwork is essential and the ability to develop good working relationships both within the company and with external contacts is a must. Manufacturing background an advantage however training will be given.
You'll enjoy a full range of employee benefits. To apply please send your CV to HR Department, Fuji Seal Europe Ltd, Scimitar Close, Gillingham Business Park, Gillingham, Kent, ME8 0R1 or alternatively you can email to jobs@uk.fujiseal.com.
Closing date: 7 December 2008
Strictly no agencies.
Fuji Seal Europe are an equal opportunities employer.

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NVQ Guidance Assessors

Permanent full time - 40 hours per week (Mon - Fri)
Positions in London, Kent and Surrey
£23,061 to £26,092 pa plus benefits
dependent on qualifications

YMCAfit are the leading provider of fitness instructor training. We are looking for enthusiastic and inspiring individuals to join our expanding work based learning team.

Candidates must have a Level 2 Gym Instructor Qualification. An Assessor Qualification (D32/D33 or A1) along with a Teaching Qualification is desirable; however we will provide training for suitable applicants.

For further information and to apply please contact Chandni Sehmi on greatstaff@ymca.co.uk or call 020 7343 1835 quoting reference: KGA.

Closing date: 15th December 2008.
Interview date: 22nd December 2008.

London Central YMCA is committed to the promotion of equal opportunities, both in the provision of its services and in its capacity as an employer.

www.ymcafit.org.uk

Not for profit. Registered Charity No. 1007043

Demelza Hospice Care for Children is a charity providing hospice care for over 450 children with life-limiting illnesses and support for their families across Kent, East Sussex and South London.

We offer specialised care in our 8 bedded residential hospice in Kent and in the family home through our dedicated Community Team working in East Sussex, South West Kent and South London.

We are delighted to announce the opening of a further 6 bedded hospice in Wensley Close, Eltham which will further enhance the services we can offer to the children and families.

We are seeking to recruit to the following post:-

Chef, Full Time, commencing ASAP
(£21,261 - £23,261 inc)

- NVQ II in catering or equivalent
- Diploma in Food Hygiene (level 4) and HACCP (level 3)
- Working with a team of dedicated volunteers to cover daily main meal at midday and an evening meal, including some weekends
- Excellent health and safety and best practice knowledge
- Knowledge of special diets and ability to train others in foundation food hygiene a distinct advantage.

For an informal chat about the role please call Lauren Clifford, Human Resources Officer on 01795 845254.

For an application pack please visit our website on www.demelza.org.uk or contact Recruitment Line on 01795 845295.

Please note that our new hospice has NO PARKING facilities for employees or volunteers.

Closing Date 5th December, 2008

Enhanced Disclosure checks by the CRB will be undertaken for successful applicants. Demelza is an equal opportunities employer and operates a no smoking policy. Registered Charity No. 1039651, Rook Lane, Bobbing, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 8DZ

Demelza

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

COULD YOU GIVE A CHILD A CHANCE ?

Integrated Services Programme (ISP) is an independent, not-for-profit childcare organisation providing foster care to children with a wide range of emotional and behavioural needs. We have Centres in Kent, London, Bucks and Sussex. We were judged "Outstanding" in our latest Ofsted inspections.

ISP looks after children from many different ethnic and cultural backgrounds including white UK, African, African-Caribbean, Asian and dual heritage. We are keen to recruit carers from similar cultural backgrounds. In addition, we are currently experiencing a high demand to look after children with varying disabilities, children who are involved in the criminal justice system and 'parent & child' placed together.

IF YOU HAVE:

- life experience
- the ability to work with children or young people and parents
- the ability to rise to the challenge of fostering
- patience, determination and a sense of humour
- no young children
- a spare bedroom
- a career change in mind

ISP WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

We offer full training, 24 hour support and a professional fee from £411 to £543 a week for each child.

For an information pack please contact our Fostering Team on:
0800 085 7989
Visit our website for more information: www.ispchildcare.org.uk

IMPROVING PROSPECTS. ACHIEVING RESULTS

westkent college

We are one of the most successful colleges in the south east region providing further and higher education. We are committed to improving the diversity of our staff by offering a wide range of opportunities including apprenticeships, flexible working and full and part-time positions. Why not look at what we can offer you.

Lecturer in Construction Crafts
£23,525 - £32,343 pa • Job Share Available

As part of well motivated team with a strong curriculum leader, you will teach primarily on BTEC/Schools/Plumbing courses from Entry Level 3 to Level 2. Your activities will include acting as a personal tutor to a designated group of students, organising work placements and contributing to course development.

Ideally you will currently be working in the FE sector, either at a College or Private Training Provider, with teaching and appropriate practical experience, preferably within the area of plumbing. Your qualifications will include teaching or a willingness to undertake one, as well as a relevant vocational qualification. This post is subject a CRB check.

The benefits in joining us are immense: generous annual leave; flexible working hours; lots of support including an on-site nursery; final salary pension; private health plan; Health & Fitness suite and more.

For further details, a job description and an application form, please contact the HR department on 01732 376511 or email hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk

Closing date: 8 December 2008.

Brook Street • Tonbridge • Kent TN9 2PW

Action for Business College

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



New start for 2009

The Royal School of Military Engineering

Engineering Opportunities: £35,000 - £40,000 (Snr Post c£45k)

Mid Kent College (MKC) is delighted to partner the Royal School of Military Engineering (RSME) at Brompton Barracks, Chatham.

We provide the trades and technical training for over 8500 Royal Engineers each year and are recruiting a number of key posts to strengthen the teams already in place at the RSME as the 30 year contract transitions to the Colleges management team.

We have opportunities for experienced engineers (ideally degree qualified) to move into lecturing roles. The Professional Engineering Wing (PEW) of the RSME develops military personnel into Clerk of Works to IEng, foundation degree and HND level.

We have positions for:

Electrical Engineers with DC, AC & single/three phase, power generation, transmission & distribution up to 11kV, generators & motors and domestic installations knowledge and experience.

Mechanical Engineers with fluid mechanics & thermodynamics, pipe design and pump sizing, H & C water supply/waste, large scale heating system design, ACR/HVAC control systems and lift technology knowledge and experience.

Construction Engineers with groundwork, timber, masonry & scaffolding, superstructures, finishes and services knowledge and experience.

Project Planner with experience of building site project management and work programming.

Civil Engineer (Snr post) ICE with "contractor" background.

You will work within an established team, in a professional environment at a time when the RSME moves into an exciting phase of its development and will be fully supported to gain additional relevant qualifications, memberships and accreditations that develop you as an engineer and benefit the PEW faculty.

For an application form and job description please: Visit our website www.midkent.ac.uk

Email: rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk

Telephone 01634 884555 (24 hr answer machine)

For an informal discussion on these positions, please call: Ken Pullan on 07725128661

Closing Date 31st January 2009

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

MidKent College is an equal opportunity employer



MKC Training Services Limited
at The Royal School of Military Engineering



New start for 2009

The Royal School of Military Engineering

Support Opportunities

Mid Kent College (MKC) is delighted to partner the Royal School of Military Engineering (RSME) at Brompton Barracks, Chatham.

We provide the trades and technical training for over 8500 Royal Engineers each year and are recruiting a number of key posts to complement the teams already in place at the RSME.

Facilities Manager Circa £38,000 – to take full responsibility for the buildings & infrastructure (including workshops and classrooms) occupied by MKC Training Services on site at the RSME. Experience of the management of Electro/Mechanical services essential.

Workshop Assistant £19,008 - £21,000 – to provide practical support within the Fitter Department, assisting with the smooth running of the stores, light maintenance duties and the movement of equipment. Would suit someone with a mechanical background and a current Fork Lift licence.

ICT Site Engineer £19,736 - £25,441 – to provide support and maintenance in response to "logged" fault calls. Must be familiar with the configuration and use of all Microsoft desk top operating systems and experienced with configuring and installing computer hardware/ancillary components.

You will work within an established team, in a professional environment at a time when the RSME moves into an exciting phase of its development.

Whilst you will already have skills, qualifications and/or experience relevant for these posts, you will be fully supported and encouraged to gain further appropriate qualifications and accreditation that will develop you as an individual and benefit the RSME.

For an application form and job description please: Visit our website www.midkent.ac.uk

Email: rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk

Telephone 01634 884555 (24 hr answer machine)

For an informal discussion on these positions, please call: Ken Pullan on 07725128661

Closing Date 5th December 2008

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

MKC Training Services is an equal opportunity employer



MKC Training Services Limited
at The Royal School of Military Engineering

CAREERS IN HEALTHCARE ACROSS EAST KENT

Your Skills Our Vision

NHS
Eastern and Coastal Kent

From Sheerness to Dungeness, Ashford to Ramsgate, over 710,000 people depend on Eastern and Coastal Kent NHS – and we put them at the heart of everything we do. All our staff work hard every day to improve health and well-being for the local community, to tackle health inequalities and to provide high quality, responsive and efficient services, both directly and through commissioning.

As one of Kent's largest employers, we aim to employ and train a world-class workforce capable of meeting our many challenges. In return for your skills and commitment we offer wide-ranging staff benefits including real investment in personalised career development, flexible working, childcare, final salary pension scheme and in-house discounts.

Why not join us?

STAFF BENEFITS PACKAGE

- Final salary pension scheme
- Occupational sickness benefit
- Lease car scheme for eligible staff
- Occupational health service
- Childcare
- Enhanced maternity pay
- Enhanced paternity pay
- Enhanced adoption pay
- Flexible Working Policies
- Extensive Training Programs
- Long service awards
- In-house discounts & external benefits

SELECTION OF CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES

ADMIN AND CLERICAL / DOMESTIC SERVICES

Job Title: Ophthalmology Contracts Manager

Salary: £29,091 to £38,352 pa

Band: 7

Hours: 37.5

Location: Ashford

Ref: 767-ECC614

Closing date: 27/11/08

Job Title: Locality Commissioning Manager - Child Health

Salary: £37,106 to £44,527 pa

Band: 8a

Hours: 37.5

Location: East Kent

Ref: 767-ECC626

Closing date: 28/11/08

Job Title: Speech & Language Therapy Secretary

Salary: £14,834 to £17,732 pa

Band: 3

Hours: 30

Location: Herne Bay

Ref: 767-ECC630

Closing date: 28/11/08

NURSING AND MIDWIFERY REGISTERED

Job Title: Community Nurse X 2

Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa

Band: 5

Hours: 37.5

Location: Birchington / Westgate

Ref: 767-EIC628

Closing date: 26/11/08

Job Title: Community Nurse

Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa pr

Band: 5

Hours: 30

Location: Cliftonville

Ref: 767-EIC629

Closing date: 26/11/08

Job Title: Community Nurse

Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa pr

Band: 5

Hours: 25

Location: Birchington

Ref: 767-EIC627

Closing date: 26/11/08

Job Title: Intermediate Care Support Nurse

Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa

Band: 5

Hours: 37.5

Location: Dover / Deal

Ref: 767-EIC605

Closing date: 27/11/08

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Job Title: Occupational Therapist

Salary: £24,103 to £32,653 pa

Band: 6

Hours: 37.5

Location: Ashford

Ref: 767-EIC609

Closing date: 27/11/08

Job Title: Occupational Therapist

Salary: £24,103 to £32,653 pa

Band: 6

Hours: 37.5

Location: Folkestone

Ref: 767-EIC612

Closing date: 27/11/08

Job Title: Psycho-Social Occupational Therapist x2

Salary: £24,103 to £32,653 pa

Band: 6

Hours: 37.5

Location: Folkestone

Ref: 767-EIC559

Closing date: 29/11/08

Job Title: Occupational Therapist (Learning Disabilities)

Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa

Band: 5

Hours: 18.75

Location: Broadstairs

Ref: 767-ASH225

Closing date: 30/11/08

Head of Resources/ Course Director

Churchill house is a long established school teaching English to international students.

We require an enthusiastic person for a permanent full-time senior teacher/admin position to maintain our large Resources Centre and assist in the planning and placement of students plus other day-to-day Teaching Office administration.

EFL Diploma and previous experience of Resources work and Course Directing essential.

See website at www.churchillhouse.co.uk for general information about the school.

Salary depending on qualifications and experience.

Send full CV to the Academic Principal, Churchill House,
Spencer Square, Ramsgate, Kent, CT11 9EQ
or email john@churchillhouse.co.uk

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New start for 2009

The Royal School of Military Engineering Course Designer

Salary £34,000 per annum

MidKent College (MKC) is delighted to partner the Royal School of Military Engineering (RSME) at Brompton Barracks, Chatham.

We provide the trades and technical training for over 8500 Royal Engineers each year and are recruiting a number of key posts to complement the teams already in place at the RSME.

If you are a Course Designer and would enjoy using your skills and experience to help develop the Military artisans of tomorrow, then this could be the ideal opportunity for you.

You will work within an established team, in a professional environment at a time when the RSME moves into an exciting phase of its development.

Whilst you will already have skills, qualifications and experience relevant for this post, you will be fully supported and encouraged to gain further appropriate qualifications and accreditation that will develop you as an individual and benefit the RSME.

If this sounds like the right role for you - get in touch now

For an application form and job description please: Visit our website www.midkent.ac.uk

Email: rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk

Telephone 01634 884555 (24 hr answer machine)

For an informal discussion on these positions, please call: Ken Pullan on 07725128661

Closing Date 30th November 2008

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.



MidKent College is an equal opportunity employer

Career Opportunities

Sheppey College is an equal opportunities employer



Sheppey College is a satellite of Canterbury College and has been open since 1996. We offer a variety of courses in a modern and friendly learning environment and enjoy excellent rates of success.

Lecturer Administration to Level 3 and Cross College Key Skills Ref 08/73
18.5 hrs per week, salary range £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata per annum

For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the above reference.

Staff benefits include:

- Pension & Life Assurance Scheme
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Proximity to main bus & train stations
- Close to Town Centre

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 8th December 2008 at 12 noon

CLICK
www.canterburycollege.ac.uk/job-vacancies

CALL
01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone)



Career Opportunities



Canterbury College is an equal opportunities employer

Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

Head of Faculty A Levels, Science & Humanities

37 hours per week, salary starting from £42,128 per annum

Ref 06/103

Lecturer Early Years

2 posts at 37 hours per week, salary range £18,387 - £26,363 per annum

Ref 08/40

Temporary Lecturer Performing Arts and Contemporary Dance

27.75 hours per week, salary range £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata per annum.

Temporary post to cover maternity leave not to exceed one year

Ref 08/152

Supply Lecturer HE Business Enterprise and General Management to teach on HNC/FD and BA programmes.

Various hours available, salary range £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata per annum.

Applicants must hold a first degree in any discipline

Ref S/HE/BE

Supply Lecturers

Various hours available, salary range £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata per annum

Dental Nursing

Information, Advice and Guidance

Mental Health

Midwifery

Catering and Hospitality

Key Skills Application of Number within Animal Care

Early Years to teach BTEC First Diploma in Child Care, Learning and Development

Ref S/DN

Ref S/IAG

Ref S/MH

Ref S/MID

Ref S/C&H

Ref S/KSAC

Ref S/EY

Supply Trainer Demonstrators

Various hours available, salary starting from £18,963 pro rata per annum

Mechanical Engineering

Machining (turning and milling)

Fabrication and Welding

Ref S/TD/ME

Network Applications Technician (Advanced)

37 hours per week, salary starting from £21,440 per annum

Ref ATA

Trainer Demonstrator Hospitality & Catering

2 posts at 18.5 hours per week, salary starting from £18,963 pro rata per annum

Ref TD8

Trainer Demonstrator Hospitality & Catering

9.25 hours per week, salary starting from £18,963 pro rata per annum

Ref 08/153

Skills for Life Initial Assessor

18.5 hours per week, salary starting from £15,085 pro rata per annum

Ref 08/154

Cleaning Coordinator

37 hours per week, salary starting from £16,914 per annum.

4 week shift pattern - 3 weeks nights and 1 week of days

Ref CLC1

Assistant Cleaning Coordinator

37 hours per week, salary starting from £15,085 pro rata per annum (nights)

Ref ACC1

Supply NVQ Assessors in Early Years

Various hours available, salary range from £18,295 - £26,232 pro rata per annum

Ref S/ASS/EY

For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the above reference.

Staff benefits include:

- Pension & Life Assurance Scheme
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Proximity to main bus & train stations
- Close to City Centre
- Sports Hall & Gym
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Staff Discount Scheme

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 8th December 2008 at 12 noon

CLICK
www.canterburycollege.ac.uk/job-vacancies

CALL
01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone)





Bar & Waiting Staff Required

We are looking for fun and energetic staff for our new venue in **Ramsgate**.
Previous experience is not essential
Full and Part Time positions available
Please contact **Steve** on **07792 676174**



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OFSTED REGISTERED

Can you provide a safe and caring home for vulnerable children? We would love to hear from you if you are interested or involved in Fostering and would like additional information. Full training and support provided in addition to excellent rates of pay.

For details please contact **01732 746697**
info@benecarefostering.co.uk
www.benecarefostering.co.uk

St Werburgh Medical Practice

98 Bells Lane, Hoo, Rochester, Kent ME3 9HU
Tel: 01634 250523

PART TIME DISPENSER/RECEPTIONIST REQUIRED

GP Dispensing Practice 20 Hours per week Mon - Fri, NVQ level 2 qualification in Dispensing essential. Must be able to work without supervision and have own transport. Must be willing to cover holidays and sickness.

PART TIME NURSE OR EXPERIENCED HCA REQUIRED
for general treatment room duties at a multi site GP surgery 25 hours per week Mon - Fri am/pm sessions.
Car essential, must be willing to cover holiday and sickness.

Closing date: 19 December 2008

Contact: Mrs Julie Allen - julie.allen@nhs.net



Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School
Maidstone Road Rochester Kent ME1 3EL
Tel: 01634 844008
Email: office@sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk
Website: www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

A Specialist Voluntary Controlled School in Mathematics, Computing and Humanities. An 11-18 Boys' Grammar School of 1180 students including 300 in the co-educational Sixth Form.

PASTORAL SUPPORT ASSISTANT

We require a full time Pastoral Support Assistant who would be prepared to act as a Cover Supervisor for 37 hours per week, term time only to start in January 2009. Salary will be according to age and experience and will be paid at Medway Grade D2 - Salary range £14,782 - £18,799 *pro rata*.

The school is expanding its team of support staff in order to enhance our pastoral structure and allow teachers to be at the forefront of learning. Do you relate well to young people? Could you support students at times when they meet barriers to their learning? Would you be able to liaise with parents, teachers and other professionals in support of individuals? Would you be interested in developing your skills with classes of young people? If so, please contact Mrs J Harrison for an application form and job specification on 01634 844008.

Any offer of employment will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check.

Closing date for applications
- Friday, 12th December 2008



Voluntary Services Assistant circa £13-14k



Working alongside the Voluntary Services Manager based in Sittingbourne as part of the Human Resources team, you will assist with the recruitment, induction, training and on-going support of volunteers to help us deliver our services throughout Kent, East Sussex and South London.

You must be:-

- ◆ Computer literate with Microsoft Office applications
- ◆ An excellent communicator at all levels with endless patience
- ◆ Organised with a flair for complex issues
- ◆ Methodical in approach to administration work
- ◆ Hold a full driving licence
- ◆ Adaptable to constantly changing priorities and workload

Required for 37 hours per week to include some occasional weekend and evening working. Experience of the voluntary sector a distinct advantage.

For an informal discussion contact Lynne Clark, Voluntary Services Manager on 01795 845218. For an application pack please visit our website on www.demelza.org.uk or contact our Recruitment Line on 01795 845295.

Closing Date

Friday 28th November, 2008

An Enhanced Disclosure check will be required for the successful applicant.
Demelza is an equal opportunities employer and operates a no smoking policy.
Registered Office Rook Lane, Bobbing, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 8DZ



Medway Adult Learning Service Tutors and Tutor/Assessors



Ref: CA0374E

Venue: Various

Salary: LNFA 1-3 (£17,127 - £20,339) pay award pending

*LNFA 8 (£24,855) pay award pending

Medway Adult Learning Service is seeking to recruit part-time tutor/assessors for the following Train to Gain programmes:

iTQ, Business Admin, Health and Social Care, Teaching and Learning in Schools, Children's Care Learning & Development, Customer Care, Retail Sales

Successful candidates will develop and deliver high quality training and assessment procedures to part-time learners. Applicants must have a full qualification in the teaching of adults and D32/D33/A1 qualifications.

We are also seeking to appoint enthusiastic part-time tutors to teach and participate in the development of programmes in the following areas:

- GCSE subjects: Maths, Biology, Geography
- Skills for Life: ESOL, English and Maths, Personal development
- Complementary therapies: Reiki, Crystal healing, Hopi ear candles
- Languages: Greek, Japanese, French, Spanish, Italian
- Health and Safety: Fire safety, First aid, Health and safety awareness
- National Certificate in Door Supervision
- National Certificate for Personal Licence Holders
- Interior Design
- Computing: General teaching, AutoCad, Sage payroll
- Fitness: Level 3 Fitness Instruction, Yoga, Pilates, Golf, Pole dancing, Tai Chi
- Travel and tourism
- Adult Literacy Learning Support level 2
- Additional diploma in teaching Maths in LLS level 5*
- Plumbing
- RYA courses

A teaching qualification is not always essential but those without a qualification will be required to undertake training within the first year.

For further details and an application pack please contact Christine Osborne, 01634 338423 or email christine.osborne@medway.gov.uk

Any offer of employment for this post will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Bureau Disclosure.

Closing date: 5 December 2008.

For an application pack or to apply visit www.medway.gov.uk or phone 01634 333333 Mon to Fri 8am - 8pm, Sat 9am - 1pm or 01634 332843 24-hour answerphone.

Alternatively email jobs@medway.gov.uk quoting the reference.

Valuing people's
differences, recognising
their strengths.



2000-2008
Supporting New Businesses



Development Officer

Starting salary £26,159, with progression
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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Productivity at the centre of attention

MANUFACTURING businesses can attend an open day at the new Renishaw Centre for Manufacturing Productivity, at the University of Greenwich at Medway, today.

The centre will demonstrate the latest technology and manufacturing systems aimed at making businesses more competitive.

Manager Ian Cakebread said: "This is an opportunity to see how the centre can benefit your business with a range of practical training courses and access to the latest tools and systems." For details see www.renishaw.info/Greenwich or call Mr Cakebread on 01634 883858.

KCC payments under scrutiny on website

BUSINESSES waiting for their money from Kent County Council can now sound off on a website.

Kent Labour has launched Kent Business Watch on its site www.kentlabour.org.uk where local businesses can report instances of late payments by KCC.

Cllr Roger Truelove, KCC shadow cabinet member for regeneration, said Prime Minister Gordon Brown had called on councils to pay bills to small businesses within ten days to help with essential cash flow.

"KCC's record isn't as good as it could be on paying invoices within 30 days, let alone ten," said Cllr Truelove.

RBS expands Thames Gateway presence

A MAJOR banking team in Kent has just got bigger.

The Royal Bank of Scotland's commercial banking team in the Thames Gateway has expanded to 30 people as it continues to service one of the South East's most dynamic and growing regions.

Robert Clare, who has been with the bank for 28 years, has taken up the team's director role after working in commercial banking in Sussex for the last five years.

His team is comprised of three sub-teams; business development, trading, and property.

Five additional staff, three in property and two in business development, have joined the team.

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KOS Media's Paul Stannard on our £1m challenge. See our business channel.

Innovative changes to support network

■ BY TONY PATEY

A HUGE shake-up of the publicly-funded business support structure across the South East is to take place over the next two years.

A new network of eight so-called 'innovation and growth teams' is being set up across the region. One will be in Kent, but the exact location has yet to be decided.

Teams – being generated by the South East England Development Agency (Seeda) – will focus on regional growth areas and will merge, under one umbrella, a range of business support activities.

It's all part of the Government's wide-ranging agenda to reduce the number of publicly-funded business support schemes and simplify the system by 2010.

Each of the nation's regional development agencies is working out its own programme and the team idea is Seeda's own approach.

In the South East, there'll be a greater emphasis on the role of Business Link, and Seeda is inviting applications from sub-regional partnerships to form teams.

Seeda says the initiative will give a broader approach to promoting innovation and growth.

Teams will target support on potentially high-growth businesses, in comparison with the county's enterprise hub network which focuses on early stage entrepreneurial individuals and companies to help bring ideas to market quickly and profitably.

Kent's hubs are currently based in Canterbury, Sittingbourne and Medway, but the idea is that the new teams will have more resources at their disposal.

A Seeda statement said: "Teams will be working with ambitious companies that are further along the development path and are aiming to make step changes in terms of their growth."

Marilyn Huckerby, head of Seeda's business innovation and growth, said: "It will represent better use of expertise, knowledge and best practice, and accelerate business through the



NEW NETWORK: Medway, Sittingbourne and Canterbury are Kent's enterprise hubs prior to the shake-up

growth stages from start-up to corporate."

She said the teams will "focus intensive support on a relatively small number of businesses". Each team will work with 250 companies at any one time.

Firms with growth potential will be picked where there is some perceived barrier or challenge holding them back and referrals would take place via Business Link through a range of initial avenues.

She added: "The new definition of innovation is broader in order to better target high growth potential. It doesn't just cover high-technology products but also new ways of doing things."

"The end game is to generate more revenue from new or significantly improved products and services."

Will the idea save any money? Seeda said: "The development of the teams is not about saving money. It is about bringing together the

funding that was going into a number of different high-growth business support activities so it can be targeted more effectively and can be used to catalyse additional services and support from local partners and stakeholders."

"The economies of scale that this generates mean that more money can be diverted to those companies with significant potential."

Sub-regional partnerships will be private and public local organisations, Seeda says each will be led by a so-called business champion, and will involve universities, research centres, Business Link, local authorities and, where appropriate, business associations such as the Institute of Directors and chambers of commerce.

Interestingly, they can also be concerned with "developing innovative solutions to local economic issues, for example, transport, ageing population and where businesses and public sector could work together".


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ON A ROLL: Gore Court (in yellow) remain unbeaten in their last seven games

Gritty Court refuse to Lewes

HOCKEY

Lewes 2 Gore Court 4

GREG Laurenson netted his eighth goal of the season as in-form Gore Court maintained their position at the top of South Hockey League 2.

With a seven game unbeaten run to protect, Court took the game to Lewes from the first whistle. Only four minutes had gone when Adam Hart skipped past the left back, only to be scythed down.

Aaron Glass stepped up and despatched the resulting penalty corner into the roof of the net.

Moments later the Sittingbourne

side extended their lead as Glass converted another short corner.

Seemingly in control, Court pressed the self-destruct button, allowing the home team to find their rhythm.

At half-time, coach Nigel Eves set out the plan for the second half and the 11 fit players set about the task.

Lewes, however, had different ideas and put Court under pressure and were back in the game with a short corner and moments later a deflection into the roof of the net brought the two sides level.

Such a dramatic turnaround could have seen Court wilt under the pressure, however their resilience was evident as Oyler and Shobbrook took control of the midfield battle.

Lewes, in their desperation to win, left themselves open at the back allowing Court to profit. Two yellow cards in five minutes saw Lewes reduced to nine players. Court pushed forward and Adam Hart bagged a poacher's goal, which was hotly disputed by the Lewes goalkeeper.

The umpire decided enough was enough and brandished the yellow card to the keeper. With the home side down to eight players and after a lengthy break for the change of goalkeeper, Court finished the game as Laurenson hit his eighth of the campaign.

Court face teams in second and third position in the next three weeks and the results of these games will be crucial.

Milton fail to tame Bears in a thriller

DESPITE an impressive second half comeback, Milton & Fulston United were forced to settle with defeat in a seven-goal thriller against Bearsted.

Russell McLeish gave Bearsted the lead before Rickie Stevens made it two. Bearsted had a three goal lead at the break as Ollie Scrivener turned in Steve Smith's free-kick.

Milton fought back in the second half and scored twice through Sam Teale and Ricky Baverstock.

The Sittingbourne side equalised through Baverstock on the hour to set up a nervous finish, but Scrivener netted a winner for Bearsted.

Sheerness East recorded their first win of the season as they beat Chipstead 3-1 to make it into the last 16 of the Kent Intermediate Challenge Shield.

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Watch Kent's Joe Denly and Rob Key in the nets ahead of their trip to India

Win for Court ladies

GORE Court Ladies' 1st XI got back to winning ways with a comprehensive 4-0 win at Maidstone 2nds.

Maidstone were strong on the break but Court soaked up the pressure with some great tackles from Anna Wanstall and Jo Byrne, while Hayley Surridge distributed the ball well.

Susan Cox squeezed a goal in at the right post to give Court the lead and the impetus to keep going. Soon afterwards, great teamwork between Rachael Lukehurst and Sian Burrows set youngster Elizabeth Jenkins up for her first goal of her 1st XI career.

Alison Cox netted in the second half and then set up Jenny Francis to complete the scoring.

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CHASE: Gary Abbott (left) tried to sign defender Matt Bourne in the summer, but the player chose to go to Folkestone instead, only to cancel his contract and join Sittingbourne

Brickies boss catches wanted man Bourne

SITTINGBOURNE manager Gary Abbott has completed the signing of out-of-contract Folkestone Invicta defender Matt Bourne.

The centre back, who cancelled his contract with Invicta two weeks ago, signed for the Bourne Park club on Friday.

The former Folkestone and Dover defender was close to signing for Ryman South rivals Whitstable Town last week after training with Marc Seager's side last Tuesday night.

However, Brickies boss Gary Abbott, who tried to sign Bourne after he left Dover in the summer, finally tied up the deal and hopes the experienced defender will help shore up his leaky defence.

He said: "Matt came training with us on Thursday night and I told him I was interested in signing him.

FOOTBALL

■ BY GLENN PEARSON

"It was all a bit strange really because I tried to sign him in the summer but he chose to go to Folkestone. To be fair to him though he said he would ring me if it didn't work out and he did that a couple of weeks ago.

"At that time though, we had Jack Haverson, Ben Payne, Billy Manners and Ian Varley at the back and I didn't think we would need him. Now we have let Haverson go, we have been able to get Bourny in.

"I think he will give us a bit more at the back as he is good in the air. He also scores goals - I can't remember the last time one of our defenders scored."

Abbott indicated that he may adopt a three-

man defence in future, with Bourne teaming up with Payne and Varley as centre-backs, which means there wouldn't be a place for skipper Joe Dowley.

The Brickies boss also disclosed that he hopes to bring Pat Gradley in as a coach. The former Margate midfielder has missed the majority of the season with injury and with competition for places in the centre of the pitch, Abbott hopes to be able to offer him a place working on the fitness of the squad.

Sittingbourne are also in the process of negotiating a deal for another centre midfielder to replace the departed Bryan Glover. Abbott had put in a seven-day approach and is waiting to hear whether he can sign the player.

The Brickies game with Worthing on Monday night was postponed as the visitors to Bourne Park were involved in a County Cup game.

Sittingbourne are next in action on Saturday as they entertain Leatherhead at Bourne Park.

Abel double helps Town into next round of cup

FOOTBALL

BY YOURSWALE REPORTER

Beckenham Town 1

Jennott 42

Faversham Town 3

Shearer 33 (pen), Abel 41, 89

FAVERSHAM Town made it five straight wins at Eden Park Avenue as the Lilywhites powered into the last eight of the Premier Division Cup.

Justin Luchford's side went into this second leg separated only by Damian Abel's late strike from the first leg at Salters Lane back in October.

Still on a high from Tuesday night's thumping 4-1 victory at Hythe, Faversham started brightly with Steve O'Brien and Sean Hetterley both making effective use of the flanks.

Town's first real chance came after 18 minutes when a cross fired in from the right was met by Abel, whose header flew just over David Guy's crossbar.

With the visitors continuing to push forward, Hetterley made a fine solo run into the box on 33 minutes and beat the defender but late contact sent him sprawling in the area.

Skipper Lee Shearer stepped up and made no mistake as he slammed the ball past Guy to open the scoring.

On 41 minutes the Lilywhites doubled their lead following a well struck shot by Dane



DOUBLE: Damian Abel (left) scored twice in cup win and (right) Sean Hetterley is sent sprawling for a penalty

Luchford. Guy did well to block the effort but was unable to hang on to the ball which spilled back into the path of the incoming Abel who fired home with ease.

After the interval the home side finally decided to make a game of it and for much of the half held the upper hand playing some neat and effective football. Town shot-stopper Kevin Readings pulled off a string of fine saves to deny the Beckenham strike force.

The home side got a much-needed foothold in the game a minute later as a long ball was floated towards substitute goalkeeper Carl Hodgson's far post, and the youngster hesitated slightly, allowing Durrant Jennott to net from close range.

As the clock ticked down the Lilywhites

Faversham Town starting XI



Subs: Ives (Soutan 66), Hodgson (Readings 74), Guiver (Shearer 74)

saved the best for last as a string of fine passes resulted in the ball falling to Abel just inside the area and the striker made no mistake as he fired home to seal a 4-1 aggregate win.

Faversham progress to the last eight where they face Deal Town or league leaders Holmesdale at Salters Lane.

Town travel to Holmesdale on Saturday.

CRICKET



CUT ABOVE: Joe Denly has England one-day hopes

Denly hoping to profit from passage to India

FOUR Kent players jetted off to India on Friday, looking to boost their claims for a place in Kevin Pietersen's England side.

Rob Key, Joe Denly, Robbie Joseph and Amjad Khan are part of the England Performance Programme squad which left for Bangalore, at the start of a month-long tour of India and a chance to train with the England Test squad.

Key will captain the England side in the two games scheduled for Bangalore and Mumbai. For Denly, it will be the second time in the last two years that the 22-year-old has toured India as part of the programme.

The Whitstable-born batsman enjoyed another successful season opening the innings for Kent and hopes to profit from the experience in India, where he will also get the opportunity to play with former England captain Michael Vaughan.

He said: "Last year I didn't have a great time of it. I didn't enjoy it if I'm totally honest because I got ill four times, but it's a great opportunity to go out there and progress my game."

"There is an unlimited time to bat, you can bat all day as there is an endless number of net bowlers. Last year I went to work on spin to give myself more scoring options and I think that worked out well."

"I will be looking to do the same and tightening up in defence against the new ball. I hope to come back fitter, stronger and a better player for Kent."

Rumours have been circulating that other counties were interested in signing the Kent youngster, something Denly firmly denies.

He said: "I haven't heard anything. I am tied in with Kent for the next two years. It's where I want to be, I love playing at Kent. I signed an extension to my contract until 2011 and hopefully in that time there will be a point to extend it even more."

LEAGUE TABLES

(Not including midweek games)

RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Kingstorian	17	11	5	1	+23	38
2 Metropolitan Police	18	9	7	2	+13	34
3 Cray Wanderers	17	10	3	4	+15	33
4 Dulwich Hamlet	17	9	4	4	+14	31
5 Fleet Town	16	8	5	3	+16	29
6 Worthing	15	8	4	3	+8	28
7 Walton & Hersham	18	8	4	6	+2	28
8 Folkestone Invicta	18	7	6	5	+3	27
9 Merstham	16	8	3	5	+2	27
10 Sittingbourne	16	8	2	6	+0	26
11 Godalming Town	17	7	4	6	+8	25
12 Leatherhead	16	7	3	6	-4	24
13 Ashford Town	18	4	9	5	+5	21
14 Eastbourne Town	17	6	3	8	+1	21
15 Whyteleafe	17	6	2	9	-5	20
16 Burgess Hill Town	16	5	4	7	-2	19
17 Walton Casuals	18	4	4	10	-12	16
18 Chipstead	17	4	4	9	-19	16
19 Croydon Athletic	17	4	3	10	-8	15
20 Whitstable Town	18	4	2	12	-21	14
21 Corinthian-Casuals	18	3	4	11	-21	13
22 Crowborough Ath	17	3	3	11	-18	12

KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

1 Holmesdale	15	10	3	2	+16	33
2 Tunbridge Wells	13	10	0	3	+12	30
3 Hythe Town	13	9	2	2	+13	29
4 Herne Bay	14	8	1	5	+10	25
5 Faversham Town	12	8	0	4	+23	24
6 Erith & Belvedere	9	6	1	2	+3	19
7 Greenwich Borough	12	6	1	5	0	19
8 Slade Green	14	5	2	7	-2	17
9 Deal Town	13	4	4	5	-2	16
10 Sevenoaks Town	13	4	4	5	-2	16
11 Norton Sports	12	5	1	6	-8	16
12 Erith Town	11	4	3	4	+4	15
13 Beckenham Town	14	4	2	8	-2	14
14 VCD Athletic	10	4	1	5	+2	13
15 Croydon	11	4	1	6	-1	13
16 Lordswood	12	1	0	11	-21	3
17 Sporting Bengal Utd	12	0	0	12	-45	0

FIXTURES (Saturday): Ryman Division One South: Sittingbourne v Leatherhead; Kent League Premier Division: Holmesdale v Faversham Town; Tunbridge Wells v Norton Sport

Twickers hopes dashed after Bourne's defeat

RUGBY

Chipstead 24 Sittingbourne 0

DREAMS of playing at Twickenham were left shattered for Sittingbourne after they were knocked out of the EDF Energy Junior Vase.

Sittingbourne went into the game confident off the back of two Kent 1 league wins against Erith and Sheppey. Despite their run of form, Sittingbourne came up against a strong side from Chipstead on Saturday.

Sittingbourne struggled to break down the Surrey side, who are having an indifferent season in Surrey 1 with just three league wins.

However, Chipstead put their league form to one side and produced a clinical display to run in several tries for victory.

Despite all their endeavour, Sittingbourne were unable to register a single point in the game.

Elsewhere in the competition, fellow Kent 1 side Sheppey fell in the fourth round as they were thrashed 62-0 by Old Walscottians.

This Saturday, Sittingbourne will return to Kent 1 league action when they take on mid-table Vigo.

With six points separating Sittingbourne and league leaders Medway, a run of victories will be needed if they are to mount a challenge for the title.

Vigo, who were promoted from Kent 2 last season with Medway, are just one position below Sittingbourne in the table. Vigo will go



CUP EXIT: Sittingbourne crashed out of the EDF Energy Junior Vase after a comprehensive defeat

into the game low on confidence after an 8-3 defeat to Old Gravesendians.

The game against Vigo is one of three Kent 1 games remaining before the winter break.

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